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# BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1960-1963

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1960

January 13, 1960

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

The first order of business was the reading of notice, received from the office of the City Clerk, certifying to the appointment of Martin F. Walsh as Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the City of Boston, for the term beginning on January 4, 1960 and expiring on the first Monday of the January following the next municipal election at which a Mayor is elected.

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Proposed Play Ares, Site of
Girls' High School Building

Although an appropriation of $50,000 has been set up by the City Auditor, by transfer from Temporary Loan Accounts, for the demolition of the Girls' High School Building on West Newton Street and the clearing of the site in preparation for playground construction, there is some question whether the Commission should proceed with this work. Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne explained to the Commission the current thinking on the selection of this location for a play area.

Because there is some question about the desirability of this site for a playground, the matter was laid on the table by unanimous vote.

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Golf Course Fees

The Commission discussed the current fees charged at the Franklin Park and George Wright municipal golf courses and compared them with fees charged at other nearby public courses. it was then

VOTED: To recommend to His Honor Mayor John F. Collins and the City Council that some fees at the two municipal golf courses be changed, as follows:

Franklin Park Golf Course: Annual permits to residents of Boston be increased from $25.00 to $35.00; annual permits to non-residents be increased from $50.00 to $75.00. All other fees--daily, weekend and holiday--to remain as at present.

George Wright Golf Course: Annual permits to residents of Boston be increased from $40.00 to $50.00; annual permits to non-residents be increased from $70.00 to $100.00. Saturday, Sunday and Holiday permits to non-residents be increased from $4.00 to $5.00. All other fees--daily, weekend and holiday,--to remain as at present.

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Matters of Information

1. Automotive Vehicles Report: The Secretary read a report from the Director of the Mayor's Advisory Committee commending the motor vehicle operators of the Parks and Recreation Department for the excellent record they have established in accident prevention.

2. Jefferson Playground: Chief Engineer Byrne explained the terms of the contract for improvements to Jefferson Playground and stated that under said terms the City of Boston may expect a check in the amount of $1786 from the bonding company for services which the contractor, Joseph DeVirgilio, failed to render.

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3. Bath Division Report: The Secretary informed the Commission that there is nothing further to report at this time on the Municipal Research Bureau's report relating to operation and maintenance of public baths in Boston, as the department is awaiting a written report from the Boston Finance Commission which will be submitted when that Commission has completed its evaluation of the Research Bureau's report and the reply to same made by the Parks and Recreation Department.

4. Directive No. 1, from Deputy Mayor

Attendance Records: The Secretary read "Directive No. 1", from the Deputy Mayor, relating to the keeping of attendance records in all city departments, and he informed the Commission that there will be a staff meeting of supervisors in the Parks and Recreation Department, in the Commission office on Friday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, to start off the program on attendance and to discuss department policies in general.

5. Directive No. 2, from Deputy Mayor

Budgets and Personnel: The Secretary read "Directive No. 2" and then reported briefly on the meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, with the Mayor and Mr. McMorrow relating to the budget and personnel reduction policies of the new administration. The Commission was informed that both the Park and Cemetery budgets of the department had been cut back to a figure below the amount allowed by the previous administration in 1959, after consultation with the Mayor and Mr. McMorrow.

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Tribute to Former Commissioner
Frank R. Kelley

VOTED, unanimously, that the Parks and Recreation Commission extend to former Commissioner Frank R. Kelley its sincere appreciation of his ten years' service as Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, during which period he rendered honorable and meritorious service to the citizens of Boston and to the community in general.

The Commission further voted to extend to Mr. Kelley its sincere wishes for his success, good health and happiness in his new assignment in the public service.

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VOTED, That the Secretary be instructed to include in the minutes of the meeting this tribute to former Commissioner Kelley and that a copy be sent to Mr. Kelley.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

February 4, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Bath Division--
Report of Jan. 27, 1960

The Secretary read to the Commission the latest report, dated January 27, 1960, on the operation of the municipal baths in the City of Boston. This report was prepared by Commissioner Walsh and Secretary O'Keefe at the request of Deputy Mayor John P. McMorrow, who asked that an evaluation of the present public bath situation in the city be made as a follow-up on the reports made in 1959 by the Municipal Research Bureau and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Commission approved the report as read and then agreed to accept an appointment, in the near future, to discuss the public question with His Honor the Mayor and Mr. McMorrow.

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Chestnut Hill Ave.--Commonwealth Ave.
Apartment House Site

Mr. Jerome Rappaport, attorney for the group that is interested in building an apartment house on land presently owned by the Parks and Recreation Commission, at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton, was present at today's meeting with two of his clients representing the investors. Also present was Mr. William McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston.

The purpose of their presence was to discuss the sale price of the land and to ask that a decision be made as early as possible and that an order be submitted to the City Council for transfer of the land and deed to the group of investors.

Mr. Rappaport explained in detail the progress that has been made in preparation for the construction of an apartment house on the site above mentioned, and he presented to the Commission a set of plans and a large, colored, framed photograph of the proposed building. Speaking as attorney for his clients, Mr. Swartz and Mr. Shuman, Mr. Rappaport stated that these men are willing to pay the appraised price of the property, $164,000, but that they are desirous of making an arrangement with the city whereby they make make a 10% down payment on the price of the land and then pay the balance in various stages as plans and construction are developed. He stated that the value of the construction at the site will not be less than $1,500,000 and that the building presently contemplated, if erected, will cost approximately three million dollars.

Mr. Rappaport then presented a form of agreement which, if approved, would permit the deferred method of payment for the land. This document was given to Mr. McDermott for submission to the Corporation Counsel for study.

Mr. McDermott stated that the legal details in connection with the sale of the land and transfer of the deed had never received the full approbation of former Corporation Counsel Baxter or former Mayor Hynes and that the present Corporation Counsel, Mr. Coffey, had not as yet been acquainted with the details.

Accordingly, the Commissioners, on suggestion of Mr. McDermott, voted to take no action at this meeting, pending a report from the Law Department.

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2/4/60

Lafayette Mall--Sculpture

Commissioner Blake reported on the results of a meeting held at the studios of Cascieri & di Bicarri, sculptors, on February 3, at which were present with Mr. Blake, Commissioner Walsh, Chief Engineer Byrne and Secretary O'Keefe of the Parks & Recreation Department. The purpose of the meeting was to view the completed model of the statuary figure entitled "Learning", which is to be erected at Parkman Plaze on Boston Common.

Mr. Blake stated that all members of the Parks and Recreation Department who were present, as well as members of the Art Commission and the architect, were satisfied that the model had been completed in an excellent manner and was completely acceptable.

It was voted to add to the bottom of the bronze plaque, in addition to the names of former Mayor Hynes and members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the following lines, "Dedicated on 1960. Hon. John F. Collins, Mayor. Martin F. Walsh, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation".

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Boston Common Garage

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, stated that the Garage Authority, by reason of a recent Supreme Court decision, has absolute right to enter on to the Common and construct the underground garage and they have full rights in regard to construction of entrances and exits on Charles Street.

Mr. McDermott also stated that the Authority is bound to restore the Common to a depth of two feet below the surface.

He further stated that there may still be a few technicalities which might force the Authority to come to the Park Commission to ask for certain rights, although this is not certain, and it may be fully established that the Authority has all necessary rights to proceed with construction and completion of the garage.

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Fairview Cemetery--Drinan Property

The Secretary read the latest communication from the Public Improvement Commission regarding the intention of the Park Commissioners to acquire the so-called "Drinan Property", located at the entrance to Fairview Cemetery, for cemetery expansion. The Public Improvement Commission suggested that a lesser area be taken that was originally planned.

Chief Engineer Byrne explained the necessity of the acquisition of the entire property for cemetery purposes, and it was then unanimously voted that the Parks and Recreation Commission endeavor to obtain all the area as originally planned and as shown on plan dated November 23, 1949, entitled "Annie M. Drinan", rather than the smaller area suggested by the Public Improvement Commission.

Mr. Byrne was delegated to discuss the matter with Mr. Haley, Public Works Commissioner and to report on the results of the talk at the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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Golf Course Fees

The Secretary reported that His Honor the Mayor has submitted to the City Council the proposed changes in golf course fees as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission in its meeting of January 13, and that department officials are now awaiting a call from the City Council to attend a committee meeting when the matter comes up for discussion.

***

Cemetery Division Budget

In compliance with the wishes of His Honor the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor communicated to the Parks and Recreation Commission by the budget analyst assigned to this department, the Commission took the following action with the understanding that the total sum of $200,000 is to replace the usual budget appropriation to the Cemetery Division made from the tax levy:

VOTED: That the Commission go on record as favoring the use

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of $160,000.00, to be taken from the Cemetery General Fund for maintenance and improvement of cemeteries, as allowed by Chapter 117 of the Acts of 1913.

VOTED: That the sum of $40,000.00 be made available for cemetery maintenance from the accumulated income of the Cemetery Trust Funds for the year 1960.

***

Boston Arts Festivel--
Use of Public Garden

The Commission was informed that within recent days Mr. John O'Neill, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, called at the office of the Parks and Recreation Department to learn at first-hand the department's record as it relates to use of the Public Garden for the annual Art Festival. Also in attendance at the meeting were Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Jerome Rosenfeld of the Art Festival Committee.

As of the present time the Arts Festival Committee has not made formal application for use of the Public Garden for the 1960 Art Festival, and as of February 2nd, Mr. O'Neil reported that he had not yet discussed the matter with the Mayor

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Chambers Street--Wall Street Play Areas

The Commission was informed that notice has been received from the Public Improvement Commission that two small play areas on Chamber Street and Wall Street, as well as a number of public streets, have been eliminated as public areas, this action having been made necessary by the redevelopment project now underway in the West End section of the city.

***

Legislative Bill,-
RE: Franklin Park

The Secretary informed the Commission that, once again, a bill has been filed in the Legislature, which, if enacted, would transfer Franklin Park to the Metropolitan District Commission. Similar bills have been filed quite regularly in recent years but nothing has developed as a result of them, and it is probable that nothing ever will, unless the Mayor expresses an interest in having such a transfer made.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12.30 p. m.

Secretary

February 24, 1960

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Finance Commission--
Bath Div. & Laundry Report

Mr. Anthony Young, Chairman of the Boston Finance Commission, and Mr. Robert Murphy, the Executive Secretary, were present at today's meeting to discuss with the Park Commissioners the results of their recent survey of the public baths and laundry system operated by the City of Boston.

It was agreed by members of both Commissions that this meeting be devoted to a more or less informal off-the-record discussion of conditions as observed by members of the Finance Commission while making their survey. Mr. Young stated that he wanted the Parks and Recreation Commissioners to know at first-hand the results of his Commission's survey and that he wanted to ascertain from the Park Commissioners their feeling with regard to certain suggested changes in operation of some bath facilities.

No decision in regard to the proposed changes was arrived at, either by members of the Finance Commission or the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. There was a general understanding of some of the opinions of both groups as to the future operation of the bath system and it was agreed that no further report of discussions would be made until such time as the Finance Commission had presented its findings to His Honor the Mayor.

*******

Cemetery Fees and Charges

A recent comparison of the scale of prices for single graves and grave lots, and for grave liners, in cemeteries in the Boston and Greater Boston area shows that prices charged in our public cemeteries in Boston are well below the general average charged in the private cemeteries. As authority to establish such prices in public cemeteries is vested in the Parks and Recreation Commissioners, who are also the Cemetery Commissioners, and in order to bring such charges more nearly on a level with those charged elsewhere, the Commission took the following action:

> VOTED: That prices for single graves and for cemetery lots of two to six graves, and for grave liners, in the active public cemeteries in the City of Boston, namely, Mount Hope in Roslindale, Fairview in Hyde Park, and Evergreen in Brighton, be increased as follows:

| Grave Lots | From | To |
|---|---|---|
| Single Graves, | $50.00 without perpetual care, | $200 ($100 for grave plus ($100 for perpetual care) |
| Two-Grave Lots, | $290.00 with perpetual care, | $395.00 with perpetual care |
| Three-Grave Lots, | $435.00 with perpetual care, | $585.00 with perpetual care |
| Four-Grave Lot, | $530.00 with perpetual care, | $785.00 with perpetual care |
| Six-Grave Lot, | $720.00 with perpetual care, | $1100.00 with perpetual care |
| Chinese Section--Single Grave: | $50.00 without perpetual care, | $200.00 ($100 for grave plus ($100 for perpetual care |
| Grave Liner | From $25.00 | To $35.00. |

2/24/60

Cemetery Fees and Charges (Cont.)

Because of the growing shortage of available land for cemetery expansion, it was

VOTED: That the sale of single graves and grave lots in public cemeteries in Boston be limited to residents of Boston and that the sale of multiple grave sections to social and fraternal organizations be discontinued.

VOTED: That changes as listed above become effective as of July 1, 1960

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Cemetery Charges for Services

A recent study of the divers charges which Chapter 7 of the Ordinances of 1956 requires be paid to the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department for certain services in our public cemeteries shows that these charges are below the general average charged in private cemeteries in the Boston area.

So that these charges will more nearly approximate those of private cemeteries, the Commission

VOTED: To recommend to His Honor the Mayor that he submit to the City Council an ordinance to make certain increases in charges for use of a cemetery chapel, opening a cemetery grave, and constructing the foundation for a cemetery monument, in our public cemeteries, namely, Mount Hope in Roslindale, Fairview in Hyde Park, and Evergreen in Brighton, the specific recommendations being as follows:

1. That $25.00 be charged for the use of a cemetery chapel with no extra fee for heating;

2. That $25.00 be charged for opening, during regular cemetery hours, a grave for an infant's remains or for cremated remains;

3. That $40.00 be charged for opening other graves during regular cemetery hours with no distinction between first and second interments;

4. That the existing $10.00 differential for openings at other hours and for double interments or removals be retained;

5. That the charge for raising remains from an opened grave (except an infant's remains and cremated remains) be increased from $5.00 to $10.00;

6. That a like increase be made in the charge for transporting such remains from one grave to another within the same cemetery; and

7. That monument foundations be billed at the rate of $10.00 a square foot of surface area.

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Also VOTED: That the Corporation Counsel's office be requested to prepare an ordinance incorporating the above changes for submission to the Mayor.

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Golf Course Fees

The Secretary informed the Commission that the City Council, under date of February 15, and the Mayor on February 17, approved the changes in golf fees at Franklin Park and George Wright golf courses as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission at its meeting on January 13, 1960.

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2/24/60

Motor Vehicle Parking
in Fenway

The Secretary read House Bill 1850, filed in 1960, which, if enacted, will permit the parking of automobiles in the Fens garden area. The bill has been given a third reading by the House of Representatives but before becoming law will require the approval of the Senate as well as a favorable vote of the City Council. This bill does not require approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission to become effective.

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Zoning Change--Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary read a communication addressed to Corporation Counsel Arthur G. Coffey, copy of which was sent to Commissioner Walsh, relating to certain recommended zoning changes on Commonwealth Avenue. The Commission, however, is already on record as favoring a change in zoning on Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to the Newton line, which will permit the erection of buildings to a new height limit of 155 feet.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p. m.

Secretary

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April 5, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Chairman Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

VOTED: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Land--Commonwealth Avenue
and Chestnut Hill Avenue

The Commission again discussed the proposed sale of park land located at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue in the Brighton district, containing approximately 64,245 square feet, for a price of $164,000.

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City, was present to advise the Commission on legal points connected with the proposed sale. Also present, later in the meeting, was Mr. Jerome Rappaport, counsel for the prospective purchasers of the property.

Consideration was given to the proposal made by Mr. Rappaport that $25,000 be accepted from the prospective purchasers, under certain terms and conditions, toward the purchase price of the land with the understanding that the balance would be paid within twelve months of the date of the deed. The Commission also considered the proposal that five years be allowed for the completion of the apartment building.

After some discussion, Mr. Rappaport agreed to change the completion date of the building from five years to four years from the date of the land deed. He stated that the building would be a multi-million-dollar cooperative apartment house and that his clients were negotiating with a prominent Boston insurance company and a savings bank for the necessary funds for construction purposes and that they had a more or less definite commitment that the money would be forthcoming upon submission of proof that there was a demand for a building of this character in Boston. He also stated that his clients would prefer to obtain the investment funds through the insurance company and the savings bank, but if the money should not be available through these sources, there would be

no difficulty in obtaining a loan under F. H. A. He said the investors plan to spend $50,000 to $65,000 promoting the apartment house and that they feel that through this means they will interest the necessary number of prospective occupants.

Discussion being ended, the Commission then voted unanimously to rescind its vote of July 18, 1956 wherein it was voted to recommend to His Honor the Mayor that the park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue be offered for sale at public auction for an upset price of $160,000, for the reason that Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that this particular order to effect the sale of the land at public auction had been withdrawn from the City Council.

It was then unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission to execute an agreement dated April 5, 1960 with Theodore Shoolman and Edward Swartz for the sale of park land containing 64,245 square feet, located at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue in the Brighton district of Boston and now under the care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Department, and it was further voted that the Chairman of the Commission be authorized to communicate to His Honor the Mayor and the City Council the contents of this vote.

The Commission then agreed to accept a deposit of $25,000 to be applied toward the purchase price of the land, with the understanding that the balance of the purchase price is to be paid within twelve months of the date of the land deed, all subject to the provisions of the agreement dated April 5, 1960 (copy on file in the office of the Commission) and subject also to approval of the City Council and His Honor the Mayor to the sale of the land for the price of $164,000. Bank deposit books, showing cash deposits in the total sum of $25,000, were then given over to the custody of the Secretary of the Commission, by Mr. Rappaport for himself and his clients, Mr. Shoolman and Mr. Swartz.

*******

Land Transfer--Chestnut Hill Avenue
and Beacon Street at Cleveland Circle

Under Chapter 240 of the Acts of 1959 the park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Beacon Street, at Cleveland Circle, may be turned over to the Metropolitan District Commission, upon consent of the Parks and Recreation Commission, for use as the site of a swimming pool, picnic grounds, and other recreational facilities, all to be developed by the Metropolitan District Commission.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was

VOTED: That Martin F. Walsh, Chairman, be, and he hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver an instrument in writing conveying approximately two hundred ninety-seven thousand nine hundred eighty-one (297,981) square feet at Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue to the Metropolitan District Commission pursuant to the provisions of Statute 1959, chapter 240.

*****

Water Mains Relocation,
Boston Common

Acting upon request of the Public Works Department of the City of Boston for relocation of the main water lines on Boston Common (as requested of the PWD by The Foundation Company of New York), the Commission unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman to execute an instrument granting to the City of Boston-Public Works Department- the right to relocate and maintain in the Beacon Street Mall, Boston Common, water pipes and conduits as shown on a plan dated March 10, 1960, marked "The Massachusetts Parking Authority Underground Parking Garage for Boston Common, Welton Becket, F.A.I.A., Architect".

*****

4/5/60

Land Transfer--Walter Street
Service Yard for Arboretum Ext.

Acting upon information that the Public Works Department service yard, at Walter and Center Streets, is soon to be abandoned, the Parks and Recreation Commission

VOTED: That the Chairman of the Commission be delegated to arrange, through the Commissioner of Public Works, for the transfer of the land area comprising the present Public Works service yard at Walter and Center Streets to the Parks and Recreation Department for use as an extension to the Arnold Areboretum.

*****

Use of Public Garden
for Arts Festival

Acting upon information received, that it is the wish of His Honor the Mayor to allow the Boston Arts Festival Committee to hold the annual Arts Festival on the Public Garden in 1960, the Commission

VOTED: To allow the use of the Public Garden for a location for the Arts Festival for the period beginning June 3 and ending June 19, 1960, under certain conditions relating to installation and construction work, and restoration of grounds, as set forth in letter to be addressed to the Managing Director of the Festival Committee.

*****

Jamaicaway--Arborway Widening

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., reported to the Commission that he is satisfied with the plan and prospectus of the dual highway to be constructed through the Arborway and Jamaicaway, and he is confident that this highway will be a very valuable addition to the highway and parkway system of the city even though it will reduce the area within the Park System.

*****

Girls High School Building

It was decided by the city government administration that the old building known as the Girls High School, on West Newton Street, should be razed and the land cleared. Accordingly, advertised bids for doing this work were received and opened at the office of the Parks and Recreation Commission on Tuesday, March 29, 1960. The lowest bidder was John J. Duane Company, Inc., 600 Southern Artery, Quincy, Massachusetts, and the amount of the bid was $37,880.00. Request has been made upon His Honor the Mayor for approval of the award of the contract to the Duane Company.

*****

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common
Sculpture and Construction Work

Mr. Kerr reported that he has not as yet completed the redrafting of the sculpture contract for Lafayette Mall but hopes to have it ready for signature in the very near future.

The Commission was informed that final payment has been made on all of the construction work that has been completed on Lafayette Mall up to the present time. The contractor, Sciaba & Co., Inc., bid a price of $79,081.90 and their contracted was completed for the total sum of $80,818.67. The allowance of 25% above the contract price was not entirely used, so that at the completion of the contract there was returned to the special appropriation the sum of $13,166.45.

*****

Building Permit referred to Parks & Recreation Commission for approval, by Building Department:

325 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from dormitory to lodging house. No work to be done. Request of owner, Robert O. Tillinghast. Approved.

*****

4/5/60

Traffic Island, Arlington and Providence Streets

The Commission gave consideration to the request of Public Works Commissioner James W. Haley that the traffic island at Arlington and Providence Streets, Boston, opposite the main entrance to the Statler-Hilton Hotel, be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department so that it may be abandoned as a traffic island and converted into a beauty spot by the planting of shrubs and flowers.

The Commission voted not to accept the transfer of this small plot of land for the reason that it is too small for horticultural development and, in their opinion, is useful only as a safety island.

*****

Public Baths--Closing Of

The members of the Parks and Recreation Commission were informed that the Finance Commission had not, as of the date of this meeting, completed its report on operation of bath facilities conducted by the City of Boston under direction of this department.

However, during the progress of today's meeting, the following letter was delivered by messenger to Commissioner Walsh:

"5 April 1960

"Martin F. Walsh, Chairman
Board of Parks & Recreation Commissioners
33 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In the interests of economy and due to the expenses of their operation and maintenance, I hereby direct the closing of the following four facilities, to be effective April 18, 1960:

Brighton Baths (Municipal Building, Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton)
Dover Street Baths
Dover Street Laundry
Paris Street Sewing and Cutting Room (Paris Street, East Boston)

These closings will necessitate the reassignment of the personnel presently employed at the above. The permanent Civil Service employees who cannot be absorbed within the Parks & Recreation Department will be given an opportunity to transfer to other departments where their services can be utilized. Our Personnel Division is being informed of this today.

It will be necessary to discontinue the towel and soap services for the above forthwith.

Very truly yours,

JOHN F. COLLINS
Mayor of Boston "

The Parks and Recreation Commission acknowledged the receipt of the letter from His Honor the Mayor directing the closing of the Brighton Baths, Dover Street Baths, Dover Street Laundry, and Paris Street Sewing and Cutting Room.

The Commission then

VOTED: To proceed to put into effect the directive of His Honor the Mayor.

*****

4/5/60

Department Budget

The members of the Commission were informed that, since the previous meeting, Commissioner Walsh, Administrative Assistant O'Keefe and Chief Engineer Byrne attended a City Council hearing on the Parks and Recreation Department budget. They informed the Commission members that, although final action has not yet been taken by the Council, it is generally agreed that 1960 budget appropriations must be lower than those of a year ago and that the income of the Parkman Fund and the Cemetery General Fund for 1960 will be used for maintenance purposes.

*****

Zoning Changes

The Commission members were informed that Commissioner Walsh and Administrative Assistant O'Keefe attended a hearing held by the Zoning Board, on March 30, on the subject of certain proposed zoning changes within the city. These changes are contained in a report made by the City Planning Board. Other hearings will be held before any decision on the proposed changes is made, and a copy of the proposed zoning changes which are of interest to the Parks and Recreation Department will be presented to the Commissioners.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p. m.

Secretary

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April 27, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the Commission office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Closing of Bath Facilities

Each member of the Commission was given a copy of the department's final report to the Mayor showing changes that have been made as a result of the Mayor's directive on the closing of the Dover Street laundry, Dover Street bath house, Brighton public baths, and the East Boston sewing and cutting room.

The members were also informed of the new operating schedule now in effect in the remaining public baths throughout the city, which places the baths on a five-day-week basis. These facilities are available to the public on the five days Tuesday through Saturday and are closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Also, as a result of the closing of the sewing room, six sewing machines were declared surplus property and, in accordance with Section 6 of the Ordinances, were transferred to the Superintendent of Supplies for disposal. The remaining machine was moved to the Franklin Park Yard, where it will be used in repairing flags, pool suits, and athletic equipment.

*****

Transfer of Dover Street
Laundry & Bath Buildings

The members of the Commission were informed that, following the directive of His Honor the Mayor received at the Commission office on April 5, 1960, the Dover Street laundry and bath buildings were closed as of April 18, 1960. As

the Parks and Recreation Department has no further use for these buildings, the Commission unanimously

VOTED: To transfer Dover Street Laundry and Bath House buildings to the Real Property Department.

*****

Land--Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue

The Secretary informed the Commission that the following transactions in connection with the proposed sale of the park land at Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, which were authorized by vote of the Commission in meeting of April 5, 1960, have been completed:

(1) The Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission has executed an agreement dated April 5, 1960, with Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edward Swartz, for the sale of 64,245 square feet of park land located at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton, and said agreement was transmitted to the Corporation Counsel for submission to His Honor the Mayor.

(2) Three bank pass books showing total deposits of $25,000 were received by the Secretary of the Commission, from Mr. Jerome Rappaport and his clients, said sum to be applied as a down payment on the price of the land when the sale has been effected, all in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of April 5, 1960.

*****

Electric Lighting on Parks and Playgrounds

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne discussed with the Commission a proposal made by the Commissioner of Public Works that there be a reassignment of costs and custody of public lighting facilities in the city, whereby various city departments will maintain and pay costs of such facilities on their own properties.

Under Section 3, Chapter 27, of the City Ordinances, the Commissioner of Public Works now has responsibility for all public lighting in the city, including maintenance of lamps and payment of electric current for facilities on parks and playgrounds.

After some discussion, the Commissioners stated that it was their opinion that the present arrangement be retained, whereby all public lighting facilities on parks and playgrounds remain in charge of the Commissioner of Public Works.

*****

Boston Arts Festival on Public Garden

The Secretary reported on the current plans of the Arts Festival Committee for use of the Public Garden for the 1960 Festival and he stated that officials of the department will meet with the Festival committee on Friday, April 29, to arrange certain details not yet completed.

*****

Parker Hill--Proposed Motel

The Commissioner reported that there is a group of men who are interested in erecting a guest house, or motel, with 200 rooms and with a large restaurant on the upper floor overlooking the city, on Parker Hill. The plans require the taking of part of park land at this location, if the project becomes a reality.

*****

4/27/60

New South End Development

The development of the Broadway-Dover Street-Tremont Street-Washington Street area, which is now under discussion, will require the taking of three small playgrounds within this area. They are the Richard Kiley playground at Albion and Compton Streets, the James and Margaret M. Tobin Playground at Albion Street, and the Cherry Street play area adjacent to Holy Trinity Church on Shawmut Avenue. It is assumed that the City will be reimbursed if these areas are taken and that the money received will be transferred to an appropriation for use in developing play areas elsewhere in the South End.

*****

Drowning Accident--
North End Swimming Pool

The Secretary read the official police report on the unfortunate drowning accident in the North End swimming pool on April 19, and the Commission members were informed that there was no negligence on the part of the department.

*****

Use of Trust Funds Income

The Commission members were informed that a request was made to His Honor the Mayor, on April 12, for issuance of an Order for approval of the City Council, for the transfer of trust funds income to be expended under the direction of the Park Commissioner as follows:

> From the General Cemetery Fund - Income from this fund, in the amount of $160,000.00, for maintenance and improvement of our cemeteries. Allowed under provisions of Chapter 117 of the Acts of 1913.
>
> From the Parkman Fund - Income from this fund as it becomes available during the year 1960, in the approximate sum of $175,000.00, for "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement Of".

*****

Demolition of Girls' High School
Building, W. Newton Street

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., reported that demolition of the Girls' High School building had begun and that the work will require approximately three months to complete. The cost will be approximately $38,000, leaving a balance in the appropriation of $12,000 which will only be sufficient to fill in and blacktop the area.

*****

Land--Harbor View Street and
Dorchester Avenue

The Secretary reported that the Parks and Recreation Department is still awaiting approval of the School Department's "Board of Sale" for the transfer of land at Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue to this department. When approval is received, the land will be developed for recreational uses.

*****

Statuary--Lafayette Mall on
Boston Common

The Commission members were informed that Mr. Kerr, of the Law Department, had notified this department that His Honor the Mayor plans to accompany department officials on their next visit to the studios of Cascierri & diBicarri to view the statuary models to be erected at the new fountain on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common. Mr. Kerr will arrange an early date for the visit, as the Mayor is anxious to have the sculpture work completed as soon as possible. Mr. Kerr stated that September is a possible date for such completion.

*****

Public Garden--Water Damage

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne reported that the approximate

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damage to the Public Garden, from an accumulation of water resulting from a break in a large water main under Boston Common early in April, will not exceed $10,000.00. They stated that the water has been drained off the Garden and the grounds cleaned, and that it is hoped to have the Swan Boats operating on the Public Garden pond during the week of May 2.

*****

Transfer of Aquarium Site,
South Boston

The Commission discussed the proposed transfer of the site of the former South Boston Aquarium and the adjacent park area to the Metropolitan District Commission for development as a recreation area. Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel,informed the Commissioners that authority to convey said land is granted under Chapter 240 of the Acts of 1959.

The Commission then

VOTED: That Martin F. Walsh, Chairman, be, and he hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver an instrument in writing conveying approximately 400,000 square feet of land in the South Boston district now held by the City of Boston for public park purposes, to the Metropolitan District Commission pursuant to the provisions of Statute 1959, Chapter 240, said land bounded as follows: southerly by Broadway, easterly by William J. Day Boulevard, northerly by Shore Road and by land of the Commonwealth, and westerly by Farragut Road.

*****

Proposed Transfer of Carter
Playground to MDC

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed with the Commission the contents of a letter, dated April 14, 1960, written by John E. Maloney, Chairman of the Metropolitan District Commission, to Arthur G. Coffey, Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston, in which Mr. Maloney stated that at a meeting of the MDC on April 13, 1960, the Commission agreed to spend from $80,000 to $100,000 for improvements to Carter Playground on Columbus Avenue. However, the letter stated, that before such improvements could be made, it will be necessary for the Parks and Recreation Commission of Boston to give to the Metropolitan District Commission the temporary custody of the playground, with the understanding that when the work is completed the playground will be returne to the Parks and Recreation Department.

The proposal was favorably considered by the Parks and Recreation Commissio but it was voted that the matter be laid on the table for further study.

*****

Cancellation of Boston Common Permit
by Ancient and Honorable Artillery

The Commissioners were informed that the Ancient and Honorable Artillery regretfully announce that,for the first time in 324 years, they will not hold their Drum Head Election on Boston Common for the reason that construction work now underway on the underground garage does not leave sufficient area available for their annual exercises.

*****

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

**********

May 25, 1960

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:10 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake.

Voted: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Swan Boat Concession

Mr. Paul Paget, present operator of the Swan Boat concession on the Public Garden Pond, was present at today's meeting to ask approval of the Commission for an increase in tariff for Swan Boat rides, as follows: children's rides, from ten cents to fifteen cents, and for adults, from twenty cents to twenty-five cents. Mr. Paget explained that the high wage scale now prevailing, which he must pay in order to obtain the proper type assistants, as well as the fact that he must replace five of the boats at a cost of $7000 each, forces him to request an increase in fares. He stated that in 80 years the fare for children has been adjusted once, from five cents to ten cents, and that in fifty years the fare for adults has increased only from ten cents to twenty cents.

VOTED: To approve an increase in tariff for Swan Boat rides as requested by Mr. Paget, as follows: for children, from ten cents to fifteen cents; for adults, from twenty cents to twenty-five cents, effective as of June 1, 1960.

***

Transfer of Dover Street
Laundry and Bath Buildings

Upon recommendation of Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, who was present during part of today's meeting, the Commission voted to rescind its vote of April 27, 1960, reading as follows: "To transfer Dover Street Laundry and Bath House buildings to the Real Property Department", and to adopt the following form of vote which is required to effect the transfer of this property:

> VOTED: That the land and buildings located on Dover Street known as the Dover Street Bath House and Laundry, being held by the Parks and Recreation Department, are no longer required for public purposes, and further Voted, That the same be transferred to the Real Property Department.

The above vote was unanimously adopted by the Commission because of the closing of the laundry and bath house, on April 18, 1960, and the discontinuance of the services rendered at these locations.

***

Proposed Improvements to Carter Plgrd.
by Metropolitan District Commission

The Parks and Recreation Commission studied a communication received from Mr. John E. Maloney, Commissioner of the Metropolitan District Commission, in which Commissioner Maloney states that his commission proposes to make certain improvements, at its own expense, to the William E. Carter Playground, Columbus Avenue, Boston, at an estimated cost of $80,000.00. The proposal is made on condition that the playground is transferred to the Metropolitan District Commission for a term of not less than twenty-five years and that the City of Boston will attend to, and pay for, the policing, lighting, maintenance and operation of the playground upon completion of the improvement work.

It was the unanimous opinion of the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission that they should meet with the members of the Metropolitan District Commission for the purpose of discussing this proposal, and that request be made for such a meeting in the near future, said meeting to be held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, or at the office of the Metropolitan District Commission.

***

5/25/60

Request for Purchase of Park Land,
VFW Parkway and Center Street

The Commission gave consideration to a communication of May 17, from Atty. Edward E. Cohen, written on behalf of Elliot Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Jamaica Plain, in which request was made for the purchase of a strip of park land near the junction of Center Street and Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway, West Roxbury, containing about three and one-half acres, being part of the land known as the Thomas B. Williams Estate. It is the desire of the Lodge, according to Mr. Cohen, to use the land as the site of a new Masonic Temple.

The Commissioners, while sympathetic with the needs of Elliot Lodge for a building site and appreciative of the fine fraternal spirit of the Lodge, feel that they have a duty to prevent encroachment on remaining park land in the city and to preserve intact these open areas that were set aside by former generations for public use.

The Commission therefore voted to reject the request of Elliot Lodge for purchase of park land in the City of Boston.

***

Arts Festival--Use of Public Garden

The Secretary read a copy of a communication sent to the manager of the Arts Festival, by the Parks & Recreation Commissioner, setting forth the terms and conditions governing the use of the Garden for the 1960 Arts Festival exhibi said conditions relating mainly to the use of the grounds during preparations for the festival and the reconditioning at the termination of the festival.

***

Cemetery General Fund

The Commission was informed that notice was received at this office, from the City Clerk, that the City Council and the Mayor, on May 16 and 17, respectiv approved the use of the sum of $160,000.00 from the income of the Cemetery Gener Fund for Cemetery Division maintenance and improvement, with the understanding that the money would be used for payroll purposes and thus help to reduce the amount appropriated from taxes.

***

Boston Common Garage

The Commission was informed that the Foundation Company, which is construct the underground garage in Boston Common, reports that it will be necessary to remove twelve trees on the Common, along the Charles Street side, which are in the way of the construction project.

***

Park Land--Chestnut Hill Avenue
at Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary distributed to each member of the Commission a copy of a report prepared by the Boston Finance Commission in compliance with a City Council order filed by Councillor Foley, relating to the proposed sale of park land at the junction of Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue to Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edward Swartz.

The principal recommendations contained in the report were (1) Wider advertising to attract more real estate developers, (2) Shorten the time lag of six years proposed by the developers presently interested in the purchase of the land, and (3) A possible amendment to city ordinances relating to building restrictions on park frontages.

No action was taken as the Commission has already voted on this matter (meeting of April 27, 1960) and will therefore await instructions from the City Council or the Law Department.

***

5/25/60

Transfer of Aquarium Building
and Grounds, South Boston

Commissioner Walsh, with the approval of the associate commissioners, today signed the deed transferring the care and custody and control of the Aquarium Building and grounds, in South Boston, from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Metropolitan District Commission. The deed was given to Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott to be filed in the Registry of Deeds.

Authorization for said transfer was voted by the Commission in meeting of April 27, 1960.

***

Contracts

The attention of the Commission was called to the following publicly advertised contracts which were awarded since the previous meeting:

1. Furnishing and Erecting Chain Link Fences at McConnell Park, Dorchester, Mass. Awarded to P. J. Dinn & Co., Inc., 60 Freeport Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amount.....$1,965.06

2. Furnishing & Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Amount.....$14,500.00

3. Surface Sealing the Tennis Courts at Carter Playground, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Awarded to New England Sealcoating Company, Inc., 349 Lincoln Street, Hingham, Massachusetts. Amount.....$2,056.50

***

Parkman Plaza--Lafayette Mall,
Boston Common

At this point in the meeting the Commission voted to recess for a short time in order to visit the studios of Cascieri & diBicarri, 27 Tavern Road, Roxbury, for final viewing of the figures to be erected on Parkman Plaza, Boston Common, at West Street.

After viewing the statues the meeting was resumed. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the three life-size sculptured figures representing "Learning, Industry and Religion". The members of the Art Commission, who were also present at the studios, concurred in the vote of approval.

The Commission also voted unanimously to approve the shells which are to be erected on the rim of the pool and which will gush forth water into the pool. The Art Commission concurred in this vote.

***

The meeting was then adjourned at 1:45 p. m.

( [signature] .
Secretary

July 19, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Proposed Taking of Certain Franklin Park Areas by Metropolitan District Commission

Mr. Walter D. Stone, Director of the Franklin Park Zoo, came before the Commission today, to discuss the proposal of the Metropolitan District Commissic to take over care, custody and control of certain areas within Franklin Park which the MDC desires for zoo expansion and recreational development, and for parking space.

Chief Engineer Byrne and Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, were present to discuss the matter with the Commission prior to Mr. Stone's arri

The areas which the Metropolitan District Commission desires are as follows:

(1) A tract containing approximately 22.5 acres known as Long Crouch Woods. Bounded by Seaver Street, Old Trail Road, Playstead Road, and Walnut Avenue. Required for zoo expansion, specifically for a large deer park where hoofed animals would roam free in moated and fenced areas.

(2) A tract containing 5½ acres in the area south of the George White Stadium known as the Playstead, immediately adjacent to Pierpont Road and Playstead Road. Would be developed for parking. Adjacent to this tract is a six-acre tract which could be used for baseball and/or little league diamonds or for other recreational facilities.

(3) An additional 1 3/4 acres adjoining the property previously described on the southeast side of the stadium, known as the "Overlook". May be used for a small swimming and wading pool.

**

The Commission agreed that, at the conclusion of today's meeting, to proceed in a body to the Franklin Park Zoo area and view at first-hand the areas desired by the Metropolitan District Commission. They were accompanied by Mr. Stone, who explained in a general way where the proposed improvements would be made.

The Commission then unanimously voted that Mr. Stone be requested to prepare a set of plans showing areas intended for parking space, also the proposed development of Long Crouch Woods, and particularly the proposed new recreation area with ball diamonds, etc., and the "Overlook" section with propos outdoor swimming pool and skating rink.

The Commission agreed that when these plans have been presented to them, they will take action on the request of the Metropolitan District Commission for the desired land takings.

*************

Boston Common--Parkman Plaza

The Commission was informed by Mr. Kerr, who was present during this part of today's meeting, that the amendment to the contract for the Parkman Plaza Fountain will increase the sculptors' contract from $55,000 to $58,000. He stated that the contract amendment had been approved by the Mayor on July 18,196( and that work should now proceed rapidly toward completion of the fountain, the statues, etc. He also read to the Commission the form of inscription which is tc appear on the center monument in the fountain area, by approval of the Mayor.

**************

7/19/1960

Mission Hill Land-
Ch. 464, Acts of 1960

Chapter 464 of the Acts of 1960 authorizes the City of Boston to convey certain park land, in the Mission Hill section of Roxbury, to Mission Hill Post American Legion.

Mr. Kerr stated that this Act is not effective until acceptance by a majority vote of the City Council and acceptance by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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Land Adjacent to Joslin Park-
Ch. 395, Acts of 1960

Mr. Kerr stated that this Act authorizes the City of Boston to sell or lease to the New England Deaconess Hospital certain park land in the City of Boston. Said land is adjacent to Joslin Park, formerly known as Longwood Park.

The Act becomes effective upon acceptance by a majority vote of the City Council and acceptance by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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Alsen Playground Site, Dorchester

The Secretary read to the Commission a letter from City Councillor John Patrick Connolly containing a request of a group of Dorchester citizens, numbering about 200, for lease or purchase of the remaining portion of the Alsen Playground site in Dorchester.

The Commission then voted to transfer the remainder of this area to the Real Property Department, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of Chapter 284 of the Acts of 1958, and Section 2A of Chapter 434 of the Acts of 1943.

**********

Boston Common Garage Site--Trees

The Secretary read a letter from The Foundation Company, which is constructing the underground garage on Boston Common, stating that the company will take every precaution to protect the existing trees on the construction site in accordance with their agreement with this department. It is understood and agreed that the company will provide the following care:

(1) Soil enrichment to provide added vitality to the trees to better withstand the change of environment;

(2) Periodic foliar feeding, cleansing, and watering of leaves with hydraulic sprays;

(3) Thinning of live branches where necessary in trees where root systems are impaired to establish a closer balance between crown and functioning roots;

(4) Periodic inspection to detect unfavorable reaction or maladjustment of individual trees.

(5) Arrange for a pipeline system to provide the necessary water for the trees.

**********

Jamaicaway Widening

Chief Engineer Byrne discussed with the Commission a few proposed additional changes in plans for the widening of Jamaicaway.

When plans have been completed and presented to the Commission for approval, action will be taken on the matter of their acceptance.

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7/19/60

Motor Pool for City Departments

The Secretary read a communication received from Mr. John P.McMorrow, Director of Administrative Services, relating to a motor pool plan for city departments, and informed the Commission of the Parks and Recreation Department's part in the program.

**********

Cemetery Charges for Graves & Services

The Commission was informed that the new scale of prices for grave lots, in the active public cemeteries in the City of Boston, became effective as of July 1, 1960, in accordance with vote of the Commission in meeting of February 24, 1960; also that fees for cemetery services and use of burial equipment, and charges for monument foundations, as recommended by the Commission in meeting of February 24, 1960 became effective on July 1, 1960 upon approval of the City Council and the Mayor.

**********

Public Garden--Art Festival

The Secretary read to the Commission a letter dated July 14, 1960, from Mr. Diggory Venn, Director of the Boston Art Festival Committee, stating that the Public Garden is in the process of reconditioning, following the closing of the 1960 Art Festival, and that Mr. Henry Buhle, formerly Superintendent of Horticulture in the Parks and Recreation Department, had been retained by the Art Festival Committee to oversee the work. The letter stated that $300 worth of seed will be planted in the affected areas and $1100 worth of sod will be put down, in order to restore these areas as quickly as possible.

**********

Fens Area--Need for Rehabilitation

The Secretary read to the Commission a letter from Representative William F. Otis regarding the need for rehabilitation of certain areas along the banks of Muddy River and in other sections of the Back Bay Fens; the reply of Commissioner Walsh was also read, in which the Commissioner stated that he is aware of the need for such rehabilitation in the Fens and would request funds for the purpose in next year's budget.

**********

Building Permits -- Referred by Building Department to Parks & Recreation Department for approval. All were approved:-

206 Commonwealth Avenue - Convert premises to ten apartments. Request of Petri Realty Trust.

208 " " - Connect fire balconies from 206 to 208 Commonwealth Avenue. Request of owner Paul Bromley.

477 " " - Legalize present occupancy of eight apartments and retail store which have existed since 1952 Request of owner George K. Kurker.

380 " " - Alterations to second floor, and other improvements, all interior in nature. Request of owner, the Harvard Club of Boston.

378 " " - Alterations to second floor, and other improvements, all interior in nature. Request of owner, the Harvard Club of Boston.

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Contracts Awarded: The following publicly advertised contracts were awarded to the low bidders respectively:-

1. "Painting and Repairs at Paris Street Gymnasium, East Boston, Mass." Awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Amount.....$29,944.00

2. "Constructing a Concession and Shelter Building at Franklin Park Golf Course, West Roxbury, Mass." Awarded to John P. Donahoe Construction Co., 206 Dudley Street, Boston, Mass. Amount.....$ 7,278.00

Contracts ( Cont.)

3. "Grading and Road Improvements at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass." Awarded to John J. Botti Co., Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Mass. Amount.....$31,904.00

Addition to Contract - Approved

1. "Sculpture and other Artistic Work in Connection with Fountain and Flag Poles in New Plaza on Boston Common Opposite West Street" -

| | |
|---|---|
| Contract Price..... | $55,000.00 |
| Addition ..... | 3,000.00 |
| Contract as Standing.... | $58,000.00 |

Contractor: Cascieri & diBiccari, Inc., 27 Tavern Road, Roxbury, Massachusetts.

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Extension of Time

Time for completion of contract for "Razing the Girls High School at West Newton Street, Boston, Mass.", was extended to September 20, 1960. Contractor: John J. Duane Co., Inc.

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Refreshment and Boat Concession, Jamaica Pond:

The license for the sale of refreshments in the shelter-house and the rental of boats at the boat landing at the public park, Jamaica Pond, which terminated on June 30, was renewed with approval of the Mayor for a period of two years beginning July 1, 1960, at the same rental as heretofore, $600 per year, the licensee being Mr. Allan L. Curtis who has been conducting the concession for some years past.

**********

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate--
Test Borings by Town of Burlington

The Commission approved the granting of a permit to the Board of Water Commissioners of the Town of Burlington to make test borings on land of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate in that town for the purpose of planning for a future water supply.

**********

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m. , and the members of the Commission accompanied Mr. Stone, Director of the Franklin Park Zoo, to the areas of Franklin Park in which Mr. Stone is interested in developing for zoo expansion and recreational use.

Arthur D. Keefe
Secretary

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September 8, 1960

A meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Harry J. Blake and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

The attention of the Commission was called to notice received at this office of the reappointment of Mr. O. Phillip Snowden as Associate Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the term ending May 1, 1964.

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The attention of the Commission was also called to the reappointment of Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake, by His Honor the Mayor, as Chairman of the Christmas Festival Committee for the year 1960, in which capacity he has served for the past ten years.

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Land Matters:

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, attended today's meeting for the purpose of reporting to the Commission on the following land matters, upon which legal advice was required:

(a) Transfer of Dover Street Bath and Laundry Bldgs. & Land: Dover Str Bath House was acquired by eminent domain, the site of the laundry building by tax title; additional areas in the rear of both buildings from the Fire Departme by tax title. The proposed transfer of all the property has been incorporated i one Council Order and as of this date is on the Mayor's desk awaiting presentati to the City Council for action in transferring the entire property to the Real Property Department.

(b) Alsen Playground, Victory Road, Dorchester: Concerning request of a group of Dorchester residents for lease or purchase of remaining portion of former Alsen Playground, Mr. McDermott reported that an order is now pending in City Council for transfer of this small piece of land to Real Property Departmen

(c) Land at Carson & Sydney Streets, Dorchester: The transfer of this property to the Real Property Department was recommended by the Parks and Recrea tion Commission on July 1, 1959, but the Council Order for such transfer was withdrawn from the Council at request of the Mayor for the purpose of making two separate transfers of the land area as follows:

> Lot B-1, containing 10,703 square feet to be transferred to the Metropolitan District Commission for care and control, said transfer to become effective upon receipt at this office of letter from the MDC incorporating recent vote of that Commiss to accept this parcel of land, and upon receipt of proper legal instrument to effect such transfer.
>
> Lot A and B-2, containing 9751 square feet, to be transferred to the Real Property Department. Order to effect the transfer is now pending in the City Council.
>
> The Parks & Recreation Commission therefore voted to rescind its approval of July 1, 1959 and to recommend transfer of the land area as shown above.

(d) Land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue: Mr. McDermot stated that the proposed sale of this land to Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edw Swartz, which was recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission in meeting of April 5, 1960, has been deferred by His Honor the Mayor for the purpose of interesting other prospective purchasers and obtaining higher cash offers for th land.

Mr. McDermott recommends that, in the meantime, the deposit of $25,000 made to this department on April 5, 1960 by Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edward Swartz, as evidence of their intent to purchase, be held until a decision is reached by the Mayor and the Council in the matter of selling the

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land area, or until said deposit is returned to the depositors upon their request and their agreement with the Parks and Recreation Department is cancelled. No action was taken by the Commission.

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Land Matters (Cont.)

Land, Harbor View Street, Dorchester: On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted to accept the parcel of land at Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue, the site of the former Cora Etheridge school, from the School Department. The transfer of said land to the Parks and Recreation Department was voted by the School Committee on July 27, 1960 after approval by the "Board of Sale", a board established within the School Department by Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1906 for the purpose of approving the sale or transfer of School Department lands or buildings.

Mr. McDermott stated that this department may proceed with plans to advertise a contract for development of the area while awaiting execution of the deed to the property.

The Commission therefore voted to approve plans presented by the engineering division of the department for development of the area as a recreation site, funds for which are available within the department.

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Arborway, Jamaicaway, Riverway--Widening:

The Secretary read to the Commission the latest letter received from Highway Engineers, Inc., dated August 23, 1960, presenting a new study of the Arborway--Jamaicaway area which proposes the use of the center roadway between Murray Circle and Kelly Circle instead of the outer roadways which featured their original study.

The Commission was also informed of the newspaper publicity given to a suggestion of His Honor the Mayor for an alternate plan for the widening.

Voted, to take no action, pending further information from the Mayor relating to the subject.

****

McConnell Park, Dorchester:

The Commission was informed that the work of reconstructing McConnell Park Playground has been completed and accepted by the Chief Engineer.

They were also informed that there is another matter still pending, relating to this playground, That is, the trespassing over a portion of the playground, with automobiles, by members of the Dorchester Yacht Club in going to and from the club parking lot. The Secretary read a letter dated August 31, 1960, from Rep. Robert H. Quinn of Ward 13, voicing the objections of residents of the area to this practice by members of the club.

Voted, to take no action at this time but to await legal advice from the Law Department and an opinion on the matter from the Mayor.

****

Castle Island Transfer

The Commission was informed that all recent correspondence with the Federal Government, relating to the proposed transfer of Castle Island to the City of Boston or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has been forwarded to His Honor the Mayor for study in determining the feasibility of allowing the area to be turned over to the Commonwealth for development as a waterfront park.

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Garvey Playground, Dorchester

The Secretary read the latest communication from Commissioner Walsh to Commissioner Maloney, of the Metropolitan District Commission, containing a statement of work still to be completed by the MDC before the return of the playground to this department can be accepted.

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Franklin Park--Legislative Bills

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the provisions of Legislative House Bill #2736 and substitute bill #2736. Either of these bills, if enacted, would provide for the transfer of any part or all of Franklin Park to the Metropolitan District Commission.

The Commission desire to go on record as opposed to any transfer of the Franklin Park area other than Long Crouch Woods which connect the Bear Dens with the zoo and which had previously been discussed with Mr. Stone, Director of the Zoo.

****

Arts Festival--Public Garden

The Commission was informed that the foreman of the Public Garden reports that the work done by the Arts Festival Committee in rehabilitating the Public Garden area used for the Arts Festival is the most satisfactory in years and that the work is now complete.

****

Boston Common Garage--
Resurfacing Mall

The Commission was informed that The Foundation Company of New York, which is constructing the underground garage in Boston Common, is asking for bids for repair of the main walk on the Common from Charles and Beacon Streets to Joy Street.

The Acting Chief Engineer, Mr. O'Neil, of the Parks and Recreation Departme reported that the center walk in which the large water pipe was laid, is to be entirely resurfaced and will then be covered with a bituminous binder up to the grade of the existing walks and with a Type "I" seal coat coal tar pitch.

****

Roberts Playground, Dorchester

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to accept the provisions of Senate Bill #683 which permits the sale of a small unused section of this playground to the William G. Walsh Post, American Legion.

****

Park Roads Maintenance

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was voted to accept the recommendations of the Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, made to the Public Works Department, regarding maintenanc of certain park roadways by the respective department.

****

Commonwealth Avenue Mall--
Electric Conduits

The Commission gave consideration to the request of the Boston Edison Company for permission to excavate along the center walk of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall from Charlesgate East to Arlington Street for the purpose of laying electric conduit lines.

The Commission went on record as opposed to any excavation of the surface of the center walk, or any interference with the location of statues on the Mall, and recommended that a meeting be held between Commissioner Walsh and department engineers and representatives of the Boston Edison Company for the purpose of working out an alternate plan whereby the conduits may be laid under the grass areas along the Mall instead of under the center walk.

****

Parker Hill Playground--
Mission Hill

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest information relating to the proposal to release for sale a portion of Parker Hill Playgroun (McLaughlin Playground), on Mission Hill, for use as the site of a hotel or mot

9/8/60

Also called to the attention of the Commission was a telegram received from the adjutant of Mission Hill Post, American Legion, protesting the sale or transfer of any part of the playground for use as a building site for any purpose.

Voted, to take no action on the matter at the present time.

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Building Permits: The following building permits were referred to the Parks and Recreation Department, by the Building Department, for approval. Action taken by the department is indicated:

282 Commonwealth Ave. - Change occupancy from six family to a lodging house and one family. Add metal clad fire door,etc. ( Apprvd)

419 Commonwealth Ave. - Change occupancy from offices and one-family dwelling to dormitory, reading room, classroom. Request of Garland Junior College. ( Apprvd)

337 Commonwealth Ave. - Remove pair of 2'6" doors (opening in). Install new 3'4" door (opening out) with side lights. Remove brownstone entrance steps. Install new reinforced concrete steps with bluetone treads and iron railings. Request of Garland Junior College. (Approvd)

99 Commonwealth Avenue - Use of premises numbered 99 Commonwealth Avenue for parking of automobiles with the necessary signs, for a fee. Request of Clarendon Development Corporation. ( Disapproved

****

Contracts - Advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:

"Proposed Parking Area at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass." Contractor: S. J. Tomasello Corp., 25 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. Amount.....$6,168.75

Addition to Contract - Approved

"Improvements at Lafayette Mall". Contractor: Cascieri & diBiccari, Inc.

| | |
|---|---|
| Original Contract Price..... | $55,000.00 |
| Addition, approvd. 7.19.60 ..... | 3,000.00 |
| Total ..... | $58,000.00 |

Extension of Time

"Razing the Girls' High School at W. Newton St., Boston, Mass." Contractor: John J. Duane Co., Inc., 600 Southern Artery, Quincy, Mass." Time extended to October 1, 1960.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m.

Secretary

October 20, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today, at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted: To accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Arborway, Jamaicaway, Riverway

The latest plan showing proposed widening of the Arborway-Jamaicaway-Riverway, developed by Highway Engineers, Inc., and the Metropolitan District Commission and entitled, "Metropolitan District Commission--Arborway, Jamaicaw Riverway. An Improved Study-Alternate Scheme A", was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners for study and consideration.

Present to discuss the plans with the Commission were: Traffic Commissio Thomas Griffin and his chief engineer Mr. Joseph Gallitta; also Mr. William Naulty of Highway Engineers, Inc., Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott, and the chief engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, Dani J. Byrne, Jr.

Commissioner Griffin and Mr. Naulty explained the changes in the proposed traffic pattern for these roads and stated that this latest plan would alleviat traffic problems now existing without destroying adjacent land and residential values and with a taking of only a minimum of park land along the roadways. Commissioner Griffin stated that this latest plan has the approval of His Honor the Mayor.

After discussion had ended and the visitors had left the meeting, the Commission voted, on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, to approve the progress print of Highway Engineers, Inc., dated Octobe 17, 1960, known as "Alternate Scheme A".

***

Transfer of Certain Park Roads
to Public Works Department

At the meeting of the Commission held on September 8, 1960, it was voted to accept the recommendations of the Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Public Works Commissioner for transfer of certain park roads to the Public Works Department of the City.

It was therefore voted, at today's meeting, to transfer care and control of the following park roads to the Public Works Department, upon approval of th necessary City Council order:

Commonwealth Avenue from Beacon Street to Kenmore Street;
Columbia Road, Dorchester, from Edward Everett Square to Mosely Street;
Avenue Louis Pasteur.

***

Transfer of Certain Park Roads
to Metropolitan District Commission

Voted, to request the Metropolitan District Commission to accept care and control of the following park roads, for the reason that these are feeder roads into larger parkways now under control of the Metropolitan District Commission and can be better maintained by that commission:

Evans Way, Roxbury, from Huntington Avenue to Fenway;
Forsyth Way, Roxbury, from Huntington Avenue to Fenway;
Castle Island Boulevard, South Boston, from the junction of Gardner Way to the Island.

***

10/20/60

Hebrew Home for Aged--
Joyce Kilmer Park

Mr. Herbert Cohen, Chairman of the Trustees of the Hebrew Home for Aged, Mr. Harry Marks, President of the corporation, and Mr. Pike, representing the contractors building the home, which is to be erected on the site of the former Joyce Kilmer Park, came before the Commission to discuss a problem in connection with the erection of the building in accordance with the terms of the deed.

Under the terms of the deed they may erect a five-story building, but it appears that they require a six-story building, which can be erected at no greater height than is allowed under the zoning laws for the five-story structure. The new plan calls for one story to be constructed more or less below the existing grade so as to allow wheel-chair patients to move from this lower level to the outdoors, and also to allow additional room for eighty more patients.

After presentation of the case it was voted, on recommendation of Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott, to lay the matter on the table pending a study regarding the legal aspects of the case, to be made by the Law Department.

***

Harbor View Street, Dorchester

The Chief Engineer reported that construction of a new play area at this location has been started.

***

Changes in Size of Headstones
in City Cemeteries

On recommendation of Commissioner Walsh, the Commission voted to establish maximum and minimum sizes of headstones that may be erected on grave lots in public cemeteries in the City of Boston, as follows:

Single-Grave Section: Single-grave monuments are to be not over 3 feet high by 1 foot wide by 2 feet long, and the minimum not less than 20 inches by 10 inches by 3 feet high.

Two-Grave Section: Monuments shall be 3 feet long by 1 foot wide by 3 feet high. No minimum.

Four-Grave Section: Where there are two lots back to back, carry out the same regulation as in the two-grave lot. That is, 3 feet long by 1 foot wide by 3 feet high. No minimum.

Four- Grave Lots in a row, side by side: Two sizes only: Maximum, 4 ft. 10 inches long by 1 ft. 3 inches wide and 3 feet high. Minimum, 3 ft. long by 1 ft. thick by 3 feet high.

All monuments to be not over three feet high.

The Commission also voted that these regulations are to be effective as of January 1, 1961.

***

Electric Cables--Commonwealth
Ave. Mall (Edison Co.)

The Commission listened to a report on a meeting held on September 20, 1960, between Parks and Recreation Department officials and representatives of Boston Edison Company in regard to the Edison Company's request for permission to install electric cables along Commonwealth Avenue Mall from Charlesgate East to Arlington Street.

It was then voted that permission be granted to the Edison Company to install such cables in accordance with conditions laid down by the Commissioner and the Chief Engineer of the department.

***

10/20/60

Land, Sydney Street, Dorchester,
Transfer to MDC

The Commission was informed that September 15, 1960 is the effective date of the transfer of 10,703 square feet of land at Carson and Sydney Streets, Dorchester, from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Metropolitan Distr Commission.

***

Recreation Matters

Mr. Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, came before the Commission at today's meeting, on invitation of the Commissioner, to discuss the problem of use of the city's recreational facilities by organizations not affiliated with the department's recreation program. Mr. Ryan stated that it has been customary for the department to allow these organizations to conduct recreatio programs for their own members on these public facilities, thus, many times, preventing the use of the facilities for the purpose for which they are intende that is, for public recreation programs open to all young people of the city.

Mr. Ryan stated that he believes a definite policy should be established in regard to the use of public recreation facilities by private organizations. The Commissioners agreed, and suggested that Mr. Ryan prepare a statement setti forth his ideas on the subject for presentation to the Commission at a future meeting.

***

Building Permits: Referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreatio Department for approval:-

260-262-264-266 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston - Change of occupancy, and interior changes. Request of Chamberlayne School and Chamberlayne Junior College. Approved.

329 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston - Change of occupancy and interior changes to convert to girls' dormitory. Approved.

***

Contracts Awarded. Advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:

1. Proposed Play Area Development at Harbor View Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Awarded to J. A. Singarella Co., 15 Bay Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amount.....$31,208.25

2. Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to D. Cicconi Landscape Service, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton, Mass. Amount.....$ 8,625.00

3. Furnishing Attendants and Maintenance Service at the Convenience Stations on Boston Common. Awarded to Clean-Brite, Inc., 120 Liverpoo Street, East Boston, Mass. Amount.....$ 5,765.00

***

Extensions of time on Contracts:

1. Razing of Girls' High School at West Newton Street, Boston, Mass. Contractor: John J. Duane Co., Inc., 600 Southern Artery, Quincy, Massachusetts. Time for completion extended to November 1, 1960.

2. Painting and Repairs at Paris Street Gymnasium, East Boston, Mass. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 10 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Time extended to November 15, 1960.

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The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

November 16, 1960

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner J. Phillip Snowden. Also present: Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

****

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate--
Sale of Small Parcel of Land

The Commission gave consideration to a request of His Honor the Mayor that action be taken on request of High Voltage Engineering Corporation, Burlington, Massachusetts, for purchase of a small parcel of land in the Town of Woburn containing about 5½ acres and now part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate.

The Commission was informed that it is the opinion of the City's Law Department that this parcel of land was not devised to the City for recreation purposes under the terms of the Cummings Will but came to the City under a residuary clause in the Will which provided that all the rest and residue of the Cummings property should go to the City of Boston for use in the care and maintenance of the real estate specifically conveyed as a public pleasure ground.

At the conclusion of all business on today's agenda, the Commissioners recessed the meeting and proceeded to Woburn for the purpose of inspecting this particular parcel of land and determining its usefulness to the City of Boston. Following the inspection the Commission took the following action:

> Whereas this parcel of land is non productive of income and not used for park purposes, it was unanimously voted by the Commission to sell this land to the High Voltage Engineering Corporation, Burlington, Massachusetts, for a sum of $25,000.00 subject to the approval of the Probate Court of Suffolk County. An instrument to be drawn shall contain a provision reserving the right to the City of Boston to remove the top soil and loam from the parcel of land to be conveyed.

**** (See amended vote of Jan. 11, 1961)

Transfer of Park Roads

The attention of the Commission was called to a letter from Commissioner Robert F. Murphy of the Metropolitan District Commission, in which he states that his Commission must deny the request of the Parks and Recreation Commission for transfer of care and control to the Metropolitan District Commission of the following roadways:--Evans Way, Roxbury, from Huntington Avenue to Fenway; Forsyth Way, Roxbury, from Huntington Avenue to Fenway; Castle Island Boulevard, South Boston, from the junction of Gardner Way to the Island. Commissioner Murphy gave as his reason for refusal that such short stretches of roadways present many problems in maintenance and also that the MDC is interested generally only in control of arterial traffic roads in and out of Boston.

The Commission then discussed the decision of Commissioner Haley of the City's Public Works Department, made some weeks ago, that his department could not accept care and control of the above three roadways, and it was unanimously

> VOTED: To write to Public Works Commissioner Haley and ask him to reconsider the matter of taking of Evans Way, Forsyth Way and Castle Island Boulevard under jurisdiction of his department because of the decision of the Metropolitan District Commission not to accept care and control of said roadways.

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11/16/60

Fairview Cemetery--Land Taking

The Commission again considered the proposed taking of land adjacent to Fairview Cemetery for the purpose of enlarging the present cemetery area, said land being owned by the Drinan heirs. The Commission therefore, in accordance with an understanding reached with the Public Improvement Commission as to the area to be acquired,

> VOTED: To request the Public Improvement Commission to make an eminent domain taking of land adjacent to Fairview Cemetery as indicated on plan entitled, "City of Boston, Parks and Recreation Department, Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park, November 4, 1960, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer".

****

Removal of Restrictions in Deed to Land of Hebrew Home for Aged

Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott discussed with the Commission certain ambiguities in language contained in deed of land conveyed by the Parks and Recreation Commission to the Trustees of the Hebrew Home for Aged on Octobe 29, 1956 pertaining to restrictions on land known as Joyce Kilmer Park. Preser during this part of the meeting was Mr. Herbert Cohen, Trustee of the Home.

For the purpose of removing said ambiguities, the Commission voted, on motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Blake, that

> A deed be given to confirm deed of the grantor acting by its Parks and Recreation Commission with the approval of the Mayor to the grantee dated October 29, 1956 and recorded with Suffolk Deeds Book 7195, Page 7 for the purpose of clarifying ambiguities in the construction of language therein contained pertaining to restrictions and to set forth the true intent of the parties at the time of the giving of such deed in respect to such restrictions.

The said confirming deed was executed on November 21, 1960.

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Walter Street Yard--Transfer to Parks and Recreation Dept.

The Secretary informed the Commission that Commissioner Haley, in letter dated October 28, 1960, consented to the transfer of land of the Public Works Department, known as the Walter Street Yard, to the Parks and Recreation Depart for use as additional area for the Arnold Arboretum, and that an Order was presented by the Mayor to the City Council on November 2, 1960, to effect said transfer.

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Lafayette Mall--Parkman Plaza Fountain

The Chief Engineer informed the Commission as to the progress toward completion of the fountain being erected on Parkman Plaza, on Boston Common, and explained the reasons for the delay in completing the work.

****

Recreation Division--Report on Policy

The Secretary informed the Commission that Recreation Director Ryan report that he is making definite progress in the formation of a policy governing the use of our recreation facilities by other than our department recreation groups and that a complete report will be forthcoming at a future meeting. He stated that he has asked a committee consisting of Monsignor John J. Carroll of the CY Ray Johns of the YMCA, a representative of the U.C.S., and Joseph McKenney, Director of Physical Education in the Boston public schools, to discuss this matter with him so that a policy may be formed that will be satisfactory to all

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11/16/60

Contracts Awarded

The following contract was advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder:

Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Amount.....$4,686.00

Extension of Time on Contract

Sculpture and other Artistic Work in connection with Fountain and Flag Poles in New Plaza on Boston Common opposite West Street. Architect: Cascieri & diBiccari, Inc., 27 Tavern Road, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Time extended to November 30, 1960.

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The meeting was recessed at 12:30 and the Commission members then proceeded to Woburn for the purpose of viewing a small parcel of land, part of the Cummings Estate property, which High Voltage Engineering Corporation is desirous of purchasing.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p. m.

Secretary

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January 11, 1961

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Deaconess Hospital
Building Program--Joslin Park

Representatives of Deaconess Hospital and officials of certain city departments were present at today's meeting, on invitation of the Commission, for the purpose of discussing Chapter 395 of the Acts of 1960 which authorizes the City of Boston to sell or lease to the New England Deaconess Hospital certain park land in said city.

Persons present at the meeting, in addition to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners, were: Dr. Shields Warren, U. S. Representative of the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission; Mr. Lowry, Executive Director of the Hospital; Mr. Pierce, architect, and Mr. Gardner, attorney for the Hospital; also Mr. Galeotta, Chief Engineer of the City's Traffic Department, Mr. W. A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston; Mr. D. J. Byrne, Chief Engineer, and Mr. A. J. O'Keefe, Administrative Assistant, of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Discussion centered mainly around the contemplated building plans of Deaconess Hospital, which involve the construction of an underground radiologic laboratory and center one foot below the level of Joslin Park, and a new hospital building to be erected adjacent to the park, also a new eight- or ten-story office building with underground garage of approximately 300 cars capacity to be located at the junction of the Riverway and Brookline Avenue.

As the building program is now only in the planning stage and there are many factors involved before construction can start, it was agreed that no definite action toward approval could be taken today and that Mr. McDermott and Mr. Pierce would prepare a memorandum covering all the procedures required before approval can be granted by the various agencies, said memorandum to be presented at a future meeting of the Commission

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Mary P. C. Cummings Estate,
Sale of Small Parcel of Land

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, reported that he expects an early settlement of the proposed sale of a small parcel of land on the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate in Woburn, to High Voltage Engineering Corporation.

At Mr. McDermott's suggestion, the Commission voted to amend its vote to sell this parcel of land, taken in meeting of November 16, 1960, by striking out the words, "subject to the approval of the Probate Court of Suffolk County" and substituting in place thereof, the words "subject to the approval of the Probate Court of Middlesex County".

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Dover Street Laundry-- Transfer Of:

The Secretary reported that the proposed sale of the Dover Street Laundry Building is still pending in the City Council and that, according to reports, it is being held up by one of the councillors who is considering placing a bill in the Legislature which would allow the Real Property Department to sell outright or to auction off the property, there being no alternative at the present time except to sell at auction.

Mr. McDermott reported that nothing can be done until the matter is present to the City Council for action or until a bill to sell outright is adopted by the Legislature.

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1/11/61

Recreation Division Policy,
RE: Use of Playgrounds

The Secretary read a statement of policy for use of the public playgrounds in the City of Boston by private organizations, said statement having been prepared by Mr. Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, upon suggestion of the Commissioners in meeting of October 20, 1960. Mr. Ryan, who is presently on a Naval Reserve tour of duty, was unable to be present at today's meeting, but his communication stated that his proposed policy had been accepted by all organizations concerned.

The policy recommendations are as follows:

> "The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will make its facilities available to all non-commercial recreational organizations. Facilities will be planned and utilized so that the largest possible number of persons can use them. The total facility needs of all organizations will be taken into account prior to assignment.
>
> Procedures:
>
> A. All facilities will be assigned and supervised by the office of the Director of Recreation.
>
> B. The organized activities of the Boston School Department, the Archdiocesan Schools and those conducted by or affiliated with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be given priority in assignment.
>
> C. Activities organized and conducted by other organizations are encouraged to join and become part of the Boston Parks and Recreation program.
>
> D. Facilities will be assigned for other free recreation programs for whatever times are available, on the basis of the greatest use by the largest possible number of people".

The Commission voted unanimously, on motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, to adopt the statement of policy as formulated by Mr. Ryan and as listed herein, for use of public recreation facilities for program purposes.

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Transfer of Trust Funds Income

The Commission adopted the following votes in regard to the transfer of certain trust funds income to the Park and Cemetery division budgets for 1961:

> VOTED: That His Honor the Mayor be requested to ask the City Council to transfer the total income of the George F. Parkman Fund for the year 1961, approximately $175,000.00, to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner as follows: "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement Of".
>
> VOTED: That the Commission go on record as favoring the use of $187,000.00, to be taken from the General Cemetery Fund, for maintenance and improvement of cemeteries, as allowed by Chapter 117 of the Acts of 1913.
>
> VOTED: That the sum of $49,000.00 be made available for cemetery maintenance from the accumulated income of the Cemetery Trust Funds for the year 1961.

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Park Land, Quinn Way, W. R.

Requests for the purchase of a small piece of park land on Quinn Way, West Roxbury, have been before the Commission on previous occasions. An offer of 23¢ per square foot was made in 1955. Another offer was made, as of November 16, 1960, of 50¢ per square foot. The matter was referred to Mr. McDermott in 1959 for further study.

In today's meeting the Commission voted not to sell this plot of land as it is required for park purposes.

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1/11/61

Naming of Playground,
Harbor View Street, Dor.

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, the Commission voted unanimously to name the new play area at the corner of Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue in honor of Robert F. Ryan, veteran of World War 2 and former commander of V. F. W. Post #7604 (now the Robert F. Ryan Post). Voted, that the official name of the playground shall be the "Robert F. Ryan Memorial Playground".

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Playground Program--Girls'
High School Site, South End

The Commission gave consideration to a communication received from Director of Recreation Patrick J. Ryan, in which he states that there is some interest among certain groups in sponsoring a year-round recreation program to be conducted by private recreation agencies on the new playground now under construction on the site of the Girls' High School in the South End. Mr. Ryan requested that he be recorded as not in favor of any private agency taking control of programming on any public tax-supported playground in the City of Boston.

The Commission voted unanimously to support Mr. Ryan in his objection to private control of recreation programming on any public playground under jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Boston.

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The Commission also went on record as opposed to the erection of an inclosed building, sanitary or otherwise, on the play area being constructed on the site of the former Girls' High School Building, because of the fact that within approximately one block of this site there are sufficient interior facilities provided in the Williams Building which is located at the corner of Shawmut Avenue and Brookline Street.

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Deed--Hebrew Home for Aged,
Joyce Kilmer Park

The Commission was informed that the confirming deed given to the Trustees of the Hebrew Home for Aged has now been approved by the Corporation Counsel an His Honor the Mayor and has been properly recorded by the Law Department. This deed clarifies certain ambiguities in language in the original deed. The Commission voted to approve said deed in meeting of November 16, 1960.

****

Hobart Street School Site,
Brighton District

The Commission was asked to support the position taken by Commissioner Walsh in rejecting an offer made by the Boston School Committee to transfer the site of the former Hobart Street School, in the Brighton district, to the Parks and Recreation Department for playground purposes. The Commissioner's rejection was made for the reason that the department does not have sufficient funds or personnel to add any more play facilities to the department.

The Commission voted unanimously to support the position taken by Commissioner Walsh.

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Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval. All were approved:

Commonwealth Avenue - Interior alterations in buildings numbered 480, 356-358, 324, and 151.

Arlington Street - Interior alterations in buildings numbered 10 & 1

Boylston Street - Interior alterations in buildings numbered 1171, 1185, 1191.

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1/11/61

Contracts and Concessions

Extension of Time on Contract of John J. Duane Co., Inc., for Razing the Girls' High School building at West Newton Street, Boston, Mass. Time for completion extended to April 1, 1961.

Extension of time on contract of J. A. Singarella Company for Proposed Play Area Development at Harbor View Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Time for completion extended to June 1, 1961.

**

The following concessions on park areas have been awarded with the approval of His Honor the Mayor:

Swan Boats on Public Garden Pond - To Paul G. Paget for term of three years, January 1, 1961 through December 31, 1963. Rental, $800 per year.

Space in Golf Building, Franklin Park, for Tonic Vending Machine - To John P. Burke for five years, October 1, 1960 to September 30, 1965. Rental, $100 per year.

Coin Lock Privilege in Convenience Stations on Boston Common, including furnishing of supplies and janitor service - To Clean-Brite, Inc., for one year, November 1, 1960 through October 31, 1961, for the sum of $5,765.00 to be paid by the city and the company to retain proceeds of coin locks.

Golf Professional and Sports Shop concession at George Wright Golf Course - To William Taylor for three years beginning January 1, 1961 and ending December 31, 1963, at $50 per year.

Use of Room in L Street Bath House for Men's Massage Business - To William H. Baldwin for term of three years beginning January 1, 1961 and ending December 31, 1963, at rental of $100 per year.

Refreshment concession in booth located in Angell Memorial Park, Post Office Square - To Harry E. Verra for term of three years from January 1, 1961 to December 31, 1963, at $900 per year rental.

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Matters of Information

Garvey Playground: Effective Monday, December 5, 1960 the Parks and Recreation Department again assumed care and custody of Garvey Playground.

Lafayette Mall: The fountain project on Lafayette Mall has been completed.

Chapter 755 of the Acts of 1960, approved November 3, 1960, establishes the Fire Commissioner of the City of Boston as an Associate Traffic Commissioner in place of the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

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February 9, 1961

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Absent because of illness: Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Franklin Park--
Legislative Bills

Mr. Walter Stone, Director of the Franklin Park Zoo, was present during this part of the meeting to discuss with the Commission the provisions of Legislative bills #1058 and #1064. Also present were Mr. William H. Kerr and Mr. William A. McDermott, both of the City Law Department, to advise on the legal aspects of the legislation.

Bill #1058 would provide for the taking, by the Metropolitan District Commission, of a section of Franklin Park bounded by Jewish War Veterans Drive, Glen Lane, Columbia Road entrance and gate, for development as a parking lot for the zoo. Bill #1064 would provide for the taking of land within Franklin Park known as Long Crouch Woods, consisting of 21 acres, bounded by Seaver Street, Old Trail Road, Playstead Road and Walnut Avenue, to be developed for the exhibition of zoological specimens.

Mr. Stone read to the Commissioners a statement of his reasons for appearing before the Committee on Metropolitan Affairs at the State House and stating that the Parks and Recreation Department had no objection to the passage of these bills. He also stated that, after being informed of the Commission's objection to Bill #1058, he did request the Committee to take no further action until March 1.

Mr. Stone assured the Parks and Recreation Commissioners that in view of their objection, he would not press for approval of Bill #1058. Accordingly, Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne were delegated to arrange for a future meeting with Mr. Stone to ascertain if there are other areas in Franklin Park that might possibly be suitable for a parking lot.

The Commission voted unanimously to strenuously oppose House Bill #1058 (parking lot) and to offer no opposition to House Bill #1064 (taking of Long Crouch Woods) provided the works "...or any part thereof" are added to Section

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Legislative Bills #1905 & #1906--
Land Taking in Dorchester District

No action on #1906, as the bill does not pertain to Park Department.

Bill #1905 does include a certain section of Tenean Beach area, approximat four acres, under control of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Commissi voted to take no action until Commissioner Walsh has talked with the Mayor to ascertain his views regarding disposal of this land.

****

Ryan Playground, Charlestown--
RE: Schrafft Co. Request

The Commission considered the request of the W. F. Schrafft & Sons Corporation that they be allowed to purchase a strip of land 15 feet wide containing 7400 square feet, a part of the Ryan Playground which is little used by children or others. The strip of land adjoins the Company's driveway and would provide needed space for the loading of trucks.

The Commission voted to take no action on the request until after Commissi Walsh, Engineer Byrne, and Mr. McDermott have visited the site to ascertain its value for recreation purposes and to discuss the matter with Mr. Silverman of t Schrafft company.

****

2/9/61

Poplar & Wall Streets, West End

The attention of the Commission was called to the fact that as of this date, the Poston Redevelopment Authority has failed to make payment of $19,600 for two small lots of land at Poplar and Wall Streets, West End, which the authority acquired from the Parks and Recreation Department on November 10, 1959 for use in the West End redevelopment project.

The Commission voted to take no action at the present time.

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Mary P. C. Cummings Estate--
High Voltage Engineering Corp. 2/9/61

Commissioner Walsh informed the associate commissioners that he had signed an agreement with High Voltage Engineering Corporation which will permit the Parks and Recreation Department to remove ten inches of top soil from the small section of land on the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate, in the event the deed transferring this parcel of land to High Voltage Engineering Corporation is signed by the Mayor. The top soil to be removed will amount to approximately 6000 cubic yards.

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Lafayette Mall, Boston Common--
Lettering on Statues at Fountain

Chief Engineer Byrne stated that he had talked with Mr. diBiccari, the sculptor who designed the three statues representing Industry, Learning and Religion which have been erected on Parkman Plaza, Boston Common, in regard to lettering these statues in gold or black to indicate the name of each. Mr. Byrne reported that Mr. diBiccari does not believe lettering of any kind would enhance the beauty of the sculpture and that it would also reflect on the sculptor's ability to interpret for the public the meaning of the statues.

Commissioner Blake disagreed with this idea and stated that there will be hundreds of persons visiting the Common in spring and summer who will not know what the monuments mean. The Secretary then was delegated to talk with Nelson Aldrich, Chairman of the Art Commission, to ascertain his opinion of some simple wording on each statue to identify it.

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Evans Way & Forsyth Way

The Commission again discussed the proposed transfer of care and custody of Evans Way and Forsyth Way, in the Huntington Avenue section of the Fens, to the Public Works Department of the city.

It was voted not to make the transfer but to accept the offer of Commissioner Haley of the Public Works Department to sand and plow these two Ways.

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Cemetery Funds

The Commissioners were given copies of Chapter 13, Acts of 1961, enacted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, which relates to further regulation of funds received by the City of Boston through its maintenance of cemeteries and is intended to establish the public cemeteries on a self-sustaining basis.

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Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval. All were approved.

210 Riverway - Interior alterations. Request of Wheelock College.
3 Commonwealth Avenue - Interior changes.
144 Commonwealth Avenue - Legalize occupancy for 9 apartments.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p. m.

Secretary

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March 30, 1961

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake. Also present during part of the meeting were Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and Mr. Diggory Venn, Managing Director of the Boston Arts Festival.

Voted: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Exchange of Land--Malden Street, S.E.
Parcel of Land in North End

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed with the Commission a proposed exchange of land between the City of Boston and the Catholic Cardinal-Archbishop of Boston. One parcel of land is located on Malde Street, in the South End, and is under care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Department. The other parcel is in the North End section of the city, adjacent to the Christopher Columbus High School, and is owned by the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.

The parcel on Malden Street was conveyed as a gift to the City of Boston, in 1941, by the late William Cardinal O'Connell. The land has never been developed for park or playground purposes and is of no use to the department. The present Cardinal Archbishop of Boston, Richard J. Cushing, has asked that the land be returned to the Archdiocese for immediate use in a building program

In return for this conveyance the Cardinal Archbishop offers to donate to the Library Trustees of the City of Boston a parcel of land in the North End, adjacent to the Christopher Columbus High School and owned by the Archdiocese, which the Library Trustees are anxious to acquire as the site of a new branch library for the North End.

As the City paid nothing for the land on Malden Street, South End, and has spent no money on its development for public purposes, and as the Parks and Recreation Commission is of the opinion that it is of no use for park or playground purposes, the Commission voted unanimously to assent to the return of the land to the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council.

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Vacant Land, Commonwealth Avenue
at Dartmouth Street

The Commission was informed that the Board of Appeal has sustained the decision of the Parks and Recreation Commission in refusing permission to the Clarendon Development Corporation to use the cleared land between No. 99 and 107 Commonwealth Avenue for parking purposes.

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Art Festival

Mr. Diggory Venn, Managing Director of the Boston Arts Festival, was present at today's meeting to discuss with the Commission certain changes in the Arts Festival for 1961. He stated that the 1961 Festival will require a little more area on the Public Garden than was required last year but that the only major change will be to relocate the dome tent, placing it nearer the stag section of the play house, and that this tent will contain the architects' exhibits. He also stated that a small theatre tent, for use of small musical groups and lecturers, will be placed on the site formerly occupied by the dome tent and that this second tent will be slightly larger than the dome tent.

The members of the Commission were satisfied with the plans as presented by Mr. Venn and on motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, voted unanimously to allow the Arts Festival to occupy the area on the Public Garden designated on the plans, during the period from Friday, June 9 through Sunday, June 25, 1961. It was agreed between Mr. Venn and the Commissi that certain written conditions be observed for protection of the garden areas during preparation of the Festival and for restoration of these areas at the conclusion of the Festival, and that the restoration work be completed by July

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Cummings Estate 3/30/61

The Commission was informed that, under date of February 21, 1961, a check in the sum of $25,000 was received at the office of the Parks and Recreation Department, from High Voltage Engineering Corporation, in payment of a parcel of land in Burlington, Massachusetts, said land having been held by the City of Boston as trustee under the eighth clause of the will of Mary P. C. Cummings, and that said check was deposited with the City Treasurer and credited to the principal of the Mary P. C. Cummings Trust Fund.

The Commission was also informed that the Parks and Recreation Department will remove ten inches of top soil from the above-mentioned parcel of land (which contains approximately 5½ acres), in accordance with agreement made with the purchaser at the time of the sale.

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Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, then discussed with the Commission some recent publicity given to a proposal that the Town of Burlington levy taxes on the portion of the Cummings Estate that lies within that town, and, in the event that the City of Boston fails to pay the tax, to take possession of the property for development as building sites.

Mr. McDermott stated that it is the opinion of the City's Law Department that the Town of Burlington has no right to tax or to acquire any portion of the Cummings property. However, he said that residents of Burlington or of any other area may use the property for proper recreation purposes and that the Parks and Recreation Commission may not bar such use of the property.

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Land--Commonwealth Avenue
& Chestnut Hill Avenue

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, informed the Commission that a new offer has been received for the park land at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue. This offer was made by Turner Associates of 15 State Street, Boston, whose president is James S. Turner, a member of the Turner Construction Company. The Turner Associates hope to purchase the land for use as the site of a modern multi-story apartment building which they propose to erect.

On April 5, 1960 an offer of $164,000 was made for this land by Mr. Jerome Rappaport for his clients, Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edward Swartz, and they deposited security in the amount of $25,000 with the Secretary of the Parks and Recreation Commission as evidence of good faith and to be later applied toward the purchase price. An order introduced into the City Council approving the sale to Mr. Rappaport's clients, some months ago, was never passed and was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. McDermott stated that the Turner Associates have worked out an amicable agreement with Mr. Rappaport and his clients for surrender of their interests in the land.

The Turner Associates offer the sum of $175,000 for the site and have submitted in writing the following suggested terms of payment:

> "The agreed purchase price for said premises is $175,000, of which $7,500 is to be paid as a deposit upon the execution of this agreement by the SELLER. A further deposit of $10,000 is to be paid by the BUYER when the written approval and/or authorization of the Mayor and the City Council are obtained by the SELLER as a part of this agreement. The balance of $157,500 is to be paid at the time of delivery of the deed in cash or certified check. The deposits above mentioned shall be held by the SELLER separate and apart from its other funds".

After full discussion of the matter, Commissioner Carty proposed that it be held in abeyance until Mr. Rappaport has an opportunity personally to assure the Commission that he and his clients are no longer interested in the land and are willing to withdraw from all negotiations for the purchase of it.

The Commission agreed with Mr. Carty and voted that no action be taken at today's meeting in regard to the offer from Turner Associates.

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3/30/61

Concurrence

The Commission voted to concur in deed from the Commonwealth, Metropolita District Commission, to Boston Redevelopment Authority, of a parcel of land situated in Boston, in the Charles River Reservation, containing 327 square fe more or less. Said concurrence is required by Section 85, of Chapter 92 of th General Laws.

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Concessions Awarded

The Commission was informed that the following concessions in the departm were awarded to the same concessionaires who have operated them for several years past, said awards made with the approval of His Honor the Mayor:

(1) Refreshment concession in George Wright Golf Course - To John E. Crowley, 149 Beaver Street, Hyde Park, for a term of three years beginning April 1, 1961, at rental of $601.00 per year.

(2) Golf Professional and Sports Shop Concession at Franklin Park Golf Course - To Charles Malloy of 355 Belmont Street, Wollaston, for a term of three years beginning March 1, 1961, for the sum of $25.00 per year.

***

Contracts Awarded, publicly advertised and awarded to the low bidder in each case, with approval of His Honor the Mayor:

(1) Repair and Restoration of the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial, Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to W. E. Smith Co., Inc., 111 Terrace Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Amount.....$18,300.0

(2) Proposed Play Area Development at West Newton Street, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Albert C. Graglia Co., Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorcheste Massachusetts. Amount.....$47,521.0

(3) Repairs and Replacement of Park Benches at the Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Awarded to Albert C. Graglia Co., Inc. 18 Stanley Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amount.....$ 4,040.0

(4) Reconstruction of Play Area at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amount.....$16,752.5

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The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

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April 13, 1961

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner O. Phillip Snowden.

Voted: To accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Land--Chestnut Hill Avenue
and Commonwealth Avenue

Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott was present during this part of the meeting and discussed with the Commission the proposed sale of park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue. Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that there are still many details that must be settled before any positive action can be taken toward selling the land. The Commission therefore voted to lay the matter on the table until the next meeting.

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Commonwealth Avenue--Arlington
Street, Building Site

Mr. Josiah H. Child, Jr., Mr. Paulson of the Fuller Construction Company, and Mr. Wolfe of the law firm of Rackemann Sawyer & Brewster appeared before the Commission today to discuss plans for an apartment house, to be known as the Carlton House, that they hope to erect at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Arlington Street next to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. These gentlemen informed the Commission that through legislative action they are authorized to construct a building at this location to a height of 155 feet, also to erect a bridge connecting the hotel to the apartment house, and to construct a garage in the basement of the building for use of tenants.

As acceptance of Chapter 418 of the Acts of 1954 (legislation authorizing construction of a multi-story building at this location) is required by the City Council before the Parks and Recreation Commission may approve the construction plans, the Commission took no action on the matter at today's meeting.

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Poplar & Wall Streets,
West End

It was called to the attention of the Commission that on November 10, 1959 the Commission voted to accept the sum of $19,600.00 for two parcels of park land located in the West End, containing 9590 square feet, which were conveyed to the Redevelopment Authority for use in the West End redevelopment plan. As of the present date the deed to the land has not been passed and payment has not been received. The Commission therefore

> VOTED: That the Chairman be, and is hereby, authorized to execute and deliver in the name and behalf of the City of Boston a deed to the premises located on Poplar and Wall Streets, Boston, and known as Parcel 156-7 and Parcel 166-13, containing approximately 9590 square feet, to the Boston Redevelopment Authority for the sum of $19,600.00.

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Holland Playground--Mozart
and Bolster Streets, Roxbury

For the purpose of bringing the members of the Commission up to date on the progress of plans for development of two parcels of land at the above-named location, the Chief Engineer reported that the old Lowell school building is now in the process of demolition and that, when the work is completed, the site will be available to the Parks and Recreation Department for playground purposes.

In return for this site, the Parks and Recreation Department transferred to the School Department the Mozart Street (Holland) playground, on which a new school building will be erected. The exchange of land between the two departments was authorized under the provisions of Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1959 and was approved by vote of the Parks and Recreation Department on October 22, 1959 and by the School Department on November 24, 1959.

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4/13/61

Land--Chestnut Hill Avenue
and Wallingford Road, Brighton

The Secretary read a memo received from John P. McMorrow, Director of Administrative Management, Boston Redevelopment Authority, requesting information in regard to plans of the Parks and Recreation Department for use of vaca land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Wallingford Road, Brighton. The Secretary al read the reply of the Commissioner, in which he stated that the department has no use for the land for park or recreation purposes.

The Commissioners agreed that they are favorably disposed toward transfer of this land to the Redevelopment Authority but would take no action on the matter at the present time, pending receipt of formal request for its transfer

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Boston Arts Festival

The Secretary read the latest communication from Mr. Diggory Venn, managi director of the Boston Arts Festival, in which he agreed to all terms and conditions laid down by the Parks and Recreation Commission for restoration of the Public Garden area at the conclusion of the Festival.

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Cemetery Rules for
Size of Headstones

Mr. Frederick A. Davis, of the Davis Monument Works, came before the Commission to urge certain changes in the rules which became effective on January 1, 1961 regulating the size of headstones in public cemeteries under jurisdiction of the City of Boston.

After talking with Mr. Davis the Commission agreed to take no action at the present time, pending a review of the rules by the Commissioner and the Cemetery Division officials.

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Golf Professional at
George Wright Golf Course

The Commissioner acquainted the Commission with the details and correspondence relating to the dismissal, by His Honor the Mayor, of Mr. William Taylor as golf professional and golf concessionaire at the George Wright Golf Course for the reason that Mr. Taylor had purchased a United States Wagering Tax Stamp in the name of the George Wright Golf Club.

Mr. Taylor, who was admitted to the meeting at this point, then explained that he had purchased the stamp in the name of the George Wright Golf Club, during the summer of 1960, at the suggestion of a government internal revenue agent and that his only gambling device was a punch board and the only prizes offered were golf balls, and that he had long since discontinued the use of th punch board.

The Commission took no action on the matter of Mr. Taylor's dismissal but did promise to study certain extenuating circumstances in the case.

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Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

518-520 Commonwealth Avenue - Remodel front of building and first floor and basement. Approved.

90 Fenway - Change occupancy to dormitory and one apartment. Approved.

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The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

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May 3, 1961

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Harry J. Blake, and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty.

VOTED: To accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Land--Commonwealth Ave. & Chestnut Hill Ave.
Jerome L. Rappaport & Clients

The Secretary read the following letter dated April 25, 1961, received from Attorney Jerome L. Rappaport, in which he gives notice, on behalf of the Buyer, of termination of the Agreement executed April 7, 1960 for purchase of park land at Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton:

"April 25, 1961

"Mr. Martin Walsh, Park Commissioner
City of Boston
33 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

"RE: Agreement relative to purchase
of Chestnut Hill Land

"Dear Sir:

"With respect to the aforesaid Agreement executed April 7, 1960, the City Council of the City of Boston has failed to authorize the sale of the subject land. I therefore advise you that pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 of the said Agreement, the Buyer does hereby give notice of termination of said Agreement and requests that the deposits made upon the execution of the Agreement be returned to me forthwith on behalf of the depositors.

"These deposits total $25,000 and are evidenced by the following bank pass books and assignments thereof:

"1. Pass book for account numbered 220837 of the South Boston Savings Bank in the names of Morris Braff, Edward Swartz and Leonard Zonis.

"2. Pass book for account numbered 423785 of the Charlestown Savings Bank in the name of Chamberlain Management Co., Inc.

"3. Pass book for account numbered 1402290 of the Boston Five Cents Savings Bank in the name of Jerome L. Rappaport.

"My associates and I feel that the building we proposed for the land would have been a substantial aesthetic and financial benefit to the city. It is with reluctance that we terminate this Agreement. However, because of the extreme delay in acquisition, my associates have assumed other commitments which make termination advisable at this time.

"Thank you for your kind cooperation.

"Very truly yours,

"JEROME L. RAPPAPORT".

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The Commission accepted Mr. Rappaport's notice of termination of the Agreement and the Secretary was instructed to return the bank pass books to Mr. Rappaport.

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5/3/61

Land--Commonwealth Ave. & Chestnut Hill Ave.
Turner Associates Trust

Notice of termination of Agreement of April 7, 1960, with Mr. Jerome Rappaport and his clients, Mr. Theodore Shoolman and Mr. Edward Swartz, for purchase of park land at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, having been received and accepted by the Commission, the Commission gave attention to the request of The Turner Associates Trust for purchase of this same tract.

Attorney Joseph Graglia and President James S. Turner, of The Turner Associates Trust, were present during this part of the meeting and stated to the Commission that they are ready to present an agreement between their company and the Parks and Recreation Commission for purchase of this tract of land, approximately 64,000 square feet, for the sum of $175,000. These two gentlemen stated that they had met with Mayor Collins, Corporation Counsel Arth G. Coffey and his assistant, William A. McDermott, on Tuesday evening, May 2, to work out details in connection with the purchase of the land.

The Commission then unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission to execute an agreement dated May 5, 1961, with The Turner Associates Trust for the sale of park land containing approximately 64,000 square feet, located at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue in the Brighton district of Boston and now under the care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Department, and it was further voted that the Chairman of the Commission be authorized to communicate to his Honor the Mayor and the City Council the contents of this vote.

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Joslin Park--New England
Deaconess Hospital

For the purpose of supplementing information already given to the Commiss the attorney for the Deaconess Hospital appeared before the Commission at today meeting and presented a detailed memorandum showing the proposed use of the are under Joslin Park for a radiation research center which is to be constructed by the Hospital. The attorney stated that officials of the Hospital would come be the Commission, from time to time, to explain additional work that may be contemplated.

In order that preliminary work on construction may be started, the Commis unanimously

VOTED: That this commission, having reviewed the memorandum of the New England Deaconess Hospital dated March 13, 1961 showing the proposed use of the area under Joslin Park for a radiation research center, hereby recommends to the City Council the acceptance of Chapter 395 of the Acts of 1960 authorizing purchase of said underground area by New England Deaconess Hospital.

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Ryan Playground Land--
Schrafft Company

The Commission was informed that, since its last meeting, Commissioner Walsh, Chief Engineer Byrne and Secretary O'Keefe of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott visited with Mr. Silverman, President of the W. F. Schrafft & Sons Corporation and discussed with him his proposal to purchase a tract of land, part of the Ryan Playground in Charlestown, which he stated his company needs for additional driveway space for its trucks. Mr. Silverman conducted the group on a tour of the grounds in order to explain the company's needs for more land area.

Commissioner Walsh stated that Mr. Silverman agreed to have an engineering survey made and plans prepared showing the exact land area desired, but that no definite commitment was made by the Parks & Recreation Department to sell the l

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5/3/61

Playground--Site of Girls' High School, W. Newton St.

Mr. Elmer Foster, Director of Citizen Relations, and Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, came before the Commission to discuss a new plan of programming proposed for the playground to be constructed on West Newton Street.

Mr. Foster stated that it is planned to set up this playground as a pilot recreation area in which private agencies will cooperate with the Parks and Recreation Department in the directing and programming for the playground, and that, in this connection, the Bemis Bro Bag Company will provide approximately $70,000 over a two-year period for programming and staff expenses.

Mr. Ryan questioned the legality of the department entering into such an arrangement and he stated that it is his opinion that responsibility for the area should remain with the Parks and Recreation Department. He also stated that, because this new area will have so much more in equipment and personnel than other playgrounds in the city, he was apprehensive that other play areas will seem less favored by comparison.

Mr. Foster stated that the Bemis Committee members are hopeful of coordinating all recreational activities of the Park, School and Metropolitan District departments so that the citizens may bet full value out of every recreation dollar expended.

As it is believed the Mayor is interested in establishing this pilot program, the Commission decided to await further details of the plan before taking any action, but the members did state that they believed custody, maintenance and direction of the play area should remain in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Foster agreed to report back on the setup and responsibilities of the Bemis Committee; also agreed that he would work out with the Law Department any legal problems connected with the plan; and that he would report to the Parks and Recreation Commission when the program has been drawn up.

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Golf Professional--
George Wright Golf Course

The Commission was informed that the following notice was sent to Mr. William Taylor, golf professional and sports shop operator at George Wright Golf Course, on April 25, 1961:

> "You are hereby advised that the notice of termination of your license to operate Golf Professional and Sports Shop Privilege at the George Wright Golf Course, which notice was dated April 11, 1961, is hereby rescinded and said license continues in full force and effect.
>
> /s/ "Martin F. Walsh
> "Commissioner of Parks & Recreation"

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Cummings Estate, Woburn--
Burlington Park Commission

The Secretary read a letter dated April 26, 1961, received from Henry J. Keating, Chairman of the Burlington Park Commissioners, asking for a meeting with the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission for the purpose of discussing the possibility of the Town of Burlington using part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate land as a recreation area for children of the town.

It was agreed that the Burlington Park Commissioners be invited to attend the next meeting of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission for the purpose of discussing the matter.

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5/3/61

Contracts

The following publicly advertised contract was awarded to the lowest bidder: "Repairs to Bituminous Pavement at Parks and Recreation Department Roadways in Boston, Massachusetts". Awarded to S. J. Tomasello Corporation, 598 Columbia Road, Dorchester 25, Massachusetts. Amount....$8,158.00.

Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

475 Commonwealth Avenue - Erect marquee from front of building outward 18 feet. Wrought iron colums supports. Approved.

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Matters of Information

(a) Notice from the Board of Zoning Adjustment that a B-65 General Business Zone on the south side of Boylston Street near Park Drive, in Roxbury has been extended to include land now zoned as R-65.

(b) Notice has been received that two legislative acts of 1961, Chapters 176 and 201, have been passed, naming the following playgrounds located within the City of Boston but constructed by the Metropolitan District Commission:

1. Ch. 176. An Act designating the family picnic grounds in the Stony Brook Reservation in the Hyde Park District of the City of Boston as the Reverend F. Taylor Weil Picnic Grounds. Named in honor of the late Rev. F. Taylor Weil, civic leader and pastor of Christ Episcopal Church in Hyde Park.

2. Ch. 201. An Act designating a certain playground in the Hyde Park District of the City of Boston as the Guy Cardillo Memorial Playground. (Located at junction of Blakemore and Hyde Park Avenues. Named in honor of deceased war hero).

City Council Orders

(a) Approved by Mayor and City Council, an order transferring $25,000 from the appropriation, "Sumner Traffic Tunnel Receipts, Ch. 598, Acts of 1958 to the Parks and Recreation Department for erection of a shelter building on the playground to be constructed on West Newton Street.

(b) Approved by Mayor and City Council, an order transferring the income of the George F. Parkman Fund for the year 1961, amounting to $175,000.00, to the Parks and Recreation Department for maintenance and improvement of the Common and Parks in existence on January 12, 1887.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

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June 1, 1961

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:55 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners O'Connor, Carty and Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioner Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Park Land--New England Deaconess Hospital
Riverway--Brookline Avenue

Officials of the Deaconess Hospital were expected at today's meeting to acquaint the Commission with their latest plans for construction of additional hospital facilities on or under park land known as Joslin Park. However, the notified the Commission that they would not come before today's meeting because a public hearing was being held before the Board of Appeal on their application for construction of an office building and that they preferred to wait until a decision is reached by the Board of Appeal.

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Lafayette Mall--Boston Common
Plaza Project

Mr. Sidney N. Shurcliff, architect, appeared before the Commission to explain his request for additional payment that he feels is due him for services rendered in connection with the construction of the Lafayette Mall plaza project. He has been paid the entire sum due him under the contract but he stated he believes compensation is due him for services rendered which were not specified in his contract.

The Commissioners were in agreement with a suggestion made to Mr. Shurcliff that he file a complete report with Commissioner Walsh, showing a breakdown of the work and services performed for which he requests additional reimbursement.

No further action was taken, pending receipt of Mr. Shurcliff's report.

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Land--Chestnut Hill Avenue
and Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary informed the Commission that the proposed sale of park land, located at the junction of Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue, to Turner Associates Trust, has been referred by His Honor the Mayor to the City Council.

The Commission took no action, pending receipt of a report from the City Council on action taken on the matter by that body.

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Land--Ryan Playground, Charlestown
(Schrafft Corporation)

The Commission again considered the request of Mr. I. J. Silverman, President of Schrafft Corporation, for purchase of a strip of land at the rear of Ryan Playground in Charlestown which the Schrafft Company desires to acquire for additional driveway area. The land is 25 feet wide and 653.2 feet long and contains approximately 16,400 square feet.

Before taking any action on the sale of the land, the Commission voted unanimously to request the Law Department to have an appraisal made of the land in order to determine its sale value.

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Playground, West Newton Street

Recreation Director Patrick J. Ryan came before the Commission at today's meeting to discuss certain problems that he believes will arise in relation to programming on the new West Newton Street playground, when the playground is ready for use next fall.

The Commissioners requested that he keep abreast of these problems and at a later date submit to them his recommendations.

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6/1/61

Ross Estate--Forest Hills

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed with the Commissi the proposed sale of park land and buildings thereon, known as the Ross Estate to the Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The Commission requested that Mr. McDermott have another appraisal made o this land, through the Law Department, to determine its sale value.

***

Land--Poplar and Wall Streets

The Commission was informed that Commissioner Walsh had executed an agreement on May 26, 1961, for the transfer of two parcels of park land at Poplar and Wall Streets in the West End section of Boston to the Boston Redevelopment Authority for the sum of $7,800 and $11,800 respectively, a tota of $19,600.00.

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Dover Street Laundry & Bathhouse

The Secretary informed the Commission that the Boston City Council is awaiting a report from the Boston Finance Commission regarding the disposal of the Dover Street Laundry and Bathhouse by sale or transfer.

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Cummings Estate-Removal of Loam 6/1/61

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Depart ment may not, at the present time, remove loam from the parcel of land containi approximately 5 1/2 acres, formerly part of the Cummings Estate in Burlington a recently sold to High Voltage Engineering Corporation. Under the terms of sale the City of Boston was to be permitted to remove ten inches of top soil from th parcel of land. However, Mr. McDermott stated, a ruling of the Town of Burling prohibits the removal of loam from that community unless construction work is actually underway on land in question. The agreement therefore will not be honored until High Voltage Engineering Corporation makes use of the land for construction purposes.

***

Traffic Island--Arlington Street

The Commission gave consideration to the request of the general manager of the Statler-Hilton Hotel that the Parks and Recreation Commission take over care and maintenance of the traffic island bounded by Arlington Street, St. Jam Avenue and Providence Street, and beautify the same by floral plantings.

Voted, not to accept care and maintenance of the island for the reason tha in the opinion of the Commissioner, it does not lend itself to floral displays and also because it appears to be needed as a pedestrian safety area.

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Harbor View Street Playground,
Dorchester District

The Chief Engineer reported to the Commission that the new playground on Harbor View Street, Dorchester, will be completed within two weeks' time and th it will rate as the finest modern small playground constructed by the departmen in recent years.

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Boston Common Garage

The Secretary read to the Commission a news article from the Boston Globe of May 11, which stated that kiosks intended to provide ventilation for the garage now being constructed under Boston Common are to be twelve or thirteen feet in height, above the Common.

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Commendation

The Secretary read to the Commission an Order of the City Council commendi the Commissioner for fountain and floral displays on Lafayette Mall, Boston Com

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6/1/61

Cemetery Monument Restrictions

The Commission voted that the following monument restrictions are to be effective in all City of Boston cemeteries as of January 1, 1961, replacing restrictions adopted by vote of the Commission in meeting of October 20, 1960:

The following monument restrictions are mandatory and apply to all graves and lots purchased in public cemeteries in the City of Boston after December 31, 1960:

SINGLE GRAVES

Maximum Size: Two feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

Minimum Size: Twenty inches long by ten inches wide by two feet high

TWO GRAVES, SIDE BY SIDE

Maximum Size: Three feet six inches long by one foot wide by three feet six inches high

Minimum Size: Two feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

FOUR GRAVE LOTS WITH TWO GRAVES IN FRONT AND TWO IN BACK

Same restrictions apply as on two grave lots.

FOUR GRAVE LOTS WITH GRAVES SIDE BY SIDE

Maximum Size: Four feet six inches long by one foot three inches wide by three feet six inches high

Minimum Size: Three feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

FLUSH MARKERS will be allowed in place of monuments or headstones. The maximum size of flush markers can not exceed the maximum size of the bottom base of monuments allowed on the grave or lot.

LETTERING will not be allowed on the rear of monuments which are erected back to back.

On lots and graves sold before January 1, 1961, either the monument restrictions then in effect or the above outlined restrictions may be followed.

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Cemetery Division--
Chapter 13, 1961

The Secretary explained the provisions of Ch. 13 of the Acts of 1961 which further regulate the use of funds received by the City of Boston through its maintenance of cemeteries. The Act provides that all sums hereafter received by the city in the management of cemeteries owned by it or in its charge, exclusing deposits for perpetual care, shall be set up as a fund from which necessary sums may be appropriated for maintenance of cemeteries over and above the amount available for maintenance from perpetual care funds.

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Lowell Square and West Church

Chapter 601 of the Acts of 1960 was called to the attention of the Commission:

Chap. 601. An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Sell or Lease to First Methodist Church in Boston the Land and Buildings known as Lowell Square and West Church.

Under the terms of the Act the sale or lease of these properties may be made

6/1/61

Ross Estate--Forest Hills

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed with the Commissio the proposed sale of park land and buildings thereon, known as the Ross Estate, to the Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The Commission requested that Mr. McDermott have another appraisal made of this land, through the Law Department, to determine its sale value.

***

Land--Poplar and Wall Streets

The Commission was informed that Commissioner Walsh had executed an agreement on May 26, 1961, for the transfer of two parcels of park land at Poplar and Wall Streets in the West End section of Boston to the Boston Redevelopment Authority for the sum of $7,800 and $11,800 respectively, a total of $19,600.00.

***

Dover Street Laundry & Bathhouse

The Secretary informed the Commission that the Boston City Council is awaiting a report from the Boston Finance Commission regarding the disposal of the Dover Street Laundry and Bathhouse by sale or transfer.

***

Cummings Estate-Removal of Loam 6/1/61

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Department may not, at the present time, remove loam from the parcel of land containir approximately 5 1/2 acres, formerly part of the Cummings Estate in Burlington ar recently sold to High Voltage Engineering Corporation. Under the terms of sale, the City of Boston was to be permitted to remove ten inches of top soil from thi parcel of land. However, Mr. McDermott stated, a ruling of the Town of Burlingt prohibits the removal of loam from that community unless construction work is actually underway on land in question. The agreement therefore will not be honored until High Voltage Engineering Corporation makes use of the land for construction purposes.

***

Traffic Island--Arlington Street

The Commission gave consideration to the request of the general manager of the Statler-Hilton Hotel that the Parks and Recreation Commission take over care and maintenance of the traffic island bounded by Arlington Street, St. Jame Avenue and Providence Street, and beautify the same by floral plantings.

Voted, not to accept care and maintenance of the island for the reason that in the opinion of the Commissioner, it does not lend itself to floral displays and also because it appears to be needed as a pedestrian safety area.

***

Harbor View Street Playground,
Dorchester District

The Chief Engineer reported to the Commission that the new playground on Harbor View Street, Dorchester, will be completed within two weeks' time and tha it will rate as the finest modern small playground constructed by the department in recent years.

***

Boston Common Garage

The Secretary read to the Commission a news article from the Boston Globe of May 11, which stated that kiosks intended to provide ventilation for the garage now being constructed under Boston Common are to be twelve or thirteen feet in height, above the Common.

***

Commendation

The Secretary read to the Commission an Order of the City Council commendin the Commissioner for fountain and floral displays on Lafayette Mall, Boston Comm.

***

6/1/61

Cemetery Monument Restrictions

The Commission voted that the following monument restrictions are to be effective in all City of Boston cemeteries as of January 1, 1961, replacing restrictions adopted by vote of the Commission in meeting of October 20, 1960:

The following monument restrictions are mandatory and apply to all graves and lots purchased in public cemeteries in the City of Boston after December 31, 1960:

SINGLE GRAVES

Maximum Size: Two feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

Minimum Size: Twenty inches long by ten inches wide by two feet high

TWO GRAVES, SIDE BY SIDE

Maximum Size: Three feet six inches long by one foot wide by three feet six inches high

Minimum Size: Two feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

FOUR GRAVE LOTS WITH TWO GRAVES IN FRONT AND TWO IN BACK

Same restrictions apply as on two grave lots.

FOUR GRAVE LOTS WITH GRAVES SIDE BY SIDE

Maximum Size: Four feet six inches long by one foot three inches wide by three feet six inches high

Minimum Size: Three feet long by one foot wide by three feet high

FLUSH MARKERS will be allowed in place of monuments or headstones. The maximum size of flush markers can not exceed the maximum size of the bottom base of monuments allowed on the grave or lot.

LETTERING will not be allowed on the rear of monuments which are erected back to back.

On lots and graves sold before January 1, 1961, either the monument restrictions then in effect or the above outlined restrictions may be followed.

***

Cemetery Division--
Chapter 13, 1961

The Secretary explained the provisions of Ch. 13 of the Acts of 1961 which further regulate the use of funds received by the City of Boston through its maintenance of cemeteries. The Act provides that all sums hereafter received by the city in the management of cemeteries owned by it or in its charge, exclusing deposits for perpetual care, shall be set up as a fund from which necessary sums may be appropriated for maintenance of cemeteries over and above the amount available for maintenance from perpetual care funds.

***

Lowell Square and West Church

Chapter 601 of the Acts of 1960 was called to the attention of the Commission:

Chap. 601. An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Sell or Lease to First Methodist Church in Boston the Land and Buildings known as Lowell Square and West Church.

Under the terms of the Act the sale or lease of these properties may be made

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only with the assent of the parks and recreation commission and of the trustees of the public library of the city of Boston.

VOTED, to recommend acceptance of Chap. 601 of the Acts of 1960 and to refer the matter to the Law Department for appropriate action.

***

Cutillo Park

For the purpose of cooperating with the Metropolitan District Commission in its plans to construct a skating rink on Cutillo Park Playground, as provide under the provisions of House Bill #2051, the Commissioners

VOTED, To authorize the Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation to enter into a temporary agreement with the Metropolitan District Commission for the care, custody and control, by the MDC, of Cutillo Park Playground in the North End section of Boston.

***

(William A. McDermott to prepare agreement with M.D.C. Couns

Contracts publicly advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder:

1. Furnishing and Planting of Trees on Streets, Parkways in Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, Inc., 32 Canton Street, Roxbury, Mass. Amount.....$10,520.

2. Repairing and Painting Greenhouses at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Awarded to R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Amount.....$ 8,773.

***

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 o'~~clock p. m.~~

Secretary

**********************************

June 27, 1961.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Ryan Playground, Charlestown,
Schrafft Corporation

The Commission again discussed the request of W. F. Schrafft and Sons Corporation for purchase of a strip of land on the Ryan Playground, Charlestown, for driveway expansion. The land contains approximately 16,400 square feet.

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, reported that he had received an appraisal figure, by telephone, from the appraiser engaged by the Law Department, to the effect that 80¢ per foot would be a fair price for this strip of land. The Commission was informed that land sold to the Schrafft Corporation back in 1950, which was then part of the Ryan Playground, brought 70¢ per foot and that the assessed valuation of the playground land as well as the land on which the Schrafft plant is constructed is only 35¢ per foot.

Attorney Gerard Doherty appeared before the Commission and, speaking for the Schrafft Corporation, stated that the acquisition of additional driveway area is vital to the successful operation of the company's business.

The Commissioners had previously visited the Schrafft plant and viewed the parcel of land which the company desires to purchase and therefore were familiar with the location of the area under discussion.

As the appraisal was given verbally, it was voted to take no action until the Law Department presents an official written and signed appraisal to the Commission.

****

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common
Shurcliff & Merrill Fee

The Commission again discussed Mr. Sidney Shurcliff's request for additional compensation for extra work which he states his firm performed on the Parkman Plaza development on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, which was not included in his firms'contracts for architects' services on this development.

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, reported that he had reviewed both contracts made with Shurcliff & Merrill and the payments made under these contracts, on file in the City Auditor's office, and had also reviewed the final bill for payment which has not been accepted by Mr. Shurcliff.

Mr. Kerr stated that it is his opinion that the architect is not entitled to an extra fee for work which he stated, in letters submitted to Park Commissioner Walsh under date of June 16, 1961, was performed by his firm. Mr. Kerr further stated that he has not definitely made up his mind as to whether payment may be made on one or two items set forth in the communication of June 16.

At the conclusion of a lengthy discussion, Mr. Kerr stated that he will discuss the matter further with Mr. Shurcliff and will report to the Commission at another meeting.

The Commission therefore took no action on Mr. Shurcliff's request, pending receipt of Mr. Kerr's report.

****

Cummings Estate Property--
Burlington Park Commission

In response to an invitation extended by the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission, three members of the Burlington Park Commission - Mr. Keating, Mr. Reagan and Mr. Byrd, attended today's meeting to discuss their request for

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permission to develop on one small portion of the Cummings Estate a playground for the Town of Burlington.

The members of the Burlington Commission explained that they are desirous of using only one portion of the Cummings land and that all expenses of the playground development would be borne by the Town of Burlington. They stated that they do not desire to purchase the land but only to make use of part of it for recreational purposes.

The members of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission went on record as being in sympathy with the program. However, the informed the Burlington Commission that before definite action can be taken, they believe it is necessa for the Burlington Commission to confer with the Selectmen and legal counsel of their town to ascertain whether funds are available for playground developme and also to discuss legal aspects of the use of land deeded to the City of Bost It was suggested that the legal counsel of the Town of Burlington confer with the Law Department of the City of Boston regarding the provisions of the Will of Mary P. C.Cummings relating to the uses of said land.

Discussion was then concluded, pending receipt offurther information.

****

Washington & Stimson Sts.,
Park Land--Proposed Sale

The Secretary read a letter signed by Alex Philopoulos, containing an offe for a parcel of park land located at the corner of Washington and Stimson Stree West Roxbury, and he then read an opinion taken from the records of the Parks a Recreation Commission of February 18, 1955 relating to disposal of this land.

Reference was made to a communication received from William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, dated January 17, 1955, in which he called attention to the terms of the original deed under which the Parks and Recreatio Department acquired the land, which reads in part as follows:

> "This deed is given upon the condition that the said granted premises shall be used by said inhabitants for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a school building thereon, or in case the same shall cease to be used for school purposes, then that the said inhabitants shall lay-out and maintain the same as a public park forever".

Mr. McDermott stated that this parcel of land can not be transferred to th Real Property Department, for sale later, in the same way as other public lands are transferred because the deed restrictions may make it necessary to obtain a decree of the Suffolk Probate Court before the land can be transferred or sold.

The Commission took no action in the matter pending receipt of further legal opinion from Mr. McDermott.

****

Transfer of Park Roads to
Public Works Department

The Commission was informed that the following park roads were transferred to care and control of the Public Works Department by City Council Order passed on May 29, 1961 and approved by the Mayor on June 5, 1961:

1. Commonwealth Avenue from Beacon Street to Kenmore Street.
2. Columbia Road from Edward Everett Square to Moseley Street.
3. Avenue Louis Pasteur from Longwood Avenue to the Fenway.

****

Art Festival, Public Garden

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that, following conclusion of the 1961 Arts Festival held on the Public Garden, the Garden will require sod, loam, seed, etc to restore it to its former beauty and that it will be at least September 1st before new grass is grown. He stated that the cost will be approximately $4,00( which it is expected will be borne by the Arts Festival Committee.

***

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Playgrounds--Harbor View St.,
West Newton Street

The Commission was informed that the new playground at Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue was formally dedicated since the last meeting of the Commission. This playground is to be known as the "Robert F. Ryan Memorial Playground", by vote of the Commission in meeting of January 11, 1961.

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The Chief Engineer reported that the new playground on West Newton Street is nearing completion and should be ready for use by August 1st of this year and that the shelter building should be completed by November 1.

****

Contracts publicly advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:

"Developing Burial Areas and Resurfacing Roadways at Park and Recreation Department Cemeteries in Boston, Mass."
Contractor: D. F. Frangioso & Co., 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan, Massachusetts. Amount.....$33,595.00

Extension of Time on Contract

Contract for "Proposed Play Area Development at Harbor View Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts", time for completion extended to June 15, 1961.
Contractor: J. A. Singarella Co., 15 Bay Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts.

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Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

362 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from 36 apartments to 40 apartments. Approved.

373 Commonwealth Avenue - Interior modernization. Approved.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 o'clock p. m.

Secretary

**********************************

July 26, 1961.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Phillip Snowden. Commissioner Blake was in Washington.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Recreation Advisory Committee

It was expected that Mr. F. Gregg Bemis, Chairman of the Mayor's new Recreation Advisory Committee, would be present at this meeting but notice was received from him prior to the meeting that he had another commitment.

Mr. Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, attended the meeting and informed the Commission that we are now operating our summer playground program on 139 facilities of which 55 are in school yards; the balance on playgrounds and play areas in accordance with the recommended list of the Boston Recreation Committee dated April 5, 1961. Approximately 350 recreation leaders and assistants including boating managers and those in charge of our Retarded and Handicapped Children's Program are employed on the program.

***

Ryan Playground, Charlestown
Schrafft Corporation

The Commission again discussed the request of the W. F. Schrafft and Sons Corporation to purchase a strip of 16,400 sq. ft. of land on the Ryan Playground, adjacent to their property.

Mr. Lawrence Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel, presented to the Commission an appraisal prepared for the Law Department by Charles J. Petitti setting a value of $13,100.00 on the property. This is at a price of 80¢ per square foot. It was brought out at the meeting that two recent sales of property in the Charlestown District brought a price of $1.51½ and $1.58 per sq. foot.

Attorney Gerard Doherty who represents the Schrafft Corporation appeared at the meeting and stated that the company would pay any fair amount set upon the property by the Commission. Because of the differences in price on the properties that have been recently sold by the city in this area, it was voted by the Commission to table the matter until such time as Commissioner Walsh could discuss it with His Honor the Mayor.

***

Roberts Playground, Dorchester

The Commission again discussed the provisions of State Senate Act 683 of August 17, 1960, which would allow the sale of 1,676 sq. ft. of land of the Roberts Playground, Dorchester, to the William Gary Walsh Post, #369 of the American Legion. This Act must be accepted by the City Council, after which arrangements can be made through the Law Department for conveyance by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Attorney Richard Walsh, Judge Advocate of the Walsh Post, submitted an offer of $75.00 for this parcel of land, on which the post would erect an addition to their present quarters at a cost of approximately $25,000.00 The Chief Engineer reported that the land is not of any particular value to the Parks and Recreation Department, and that much of the land is covered with rock ledge.

It was the opinion of the Commissioners and Assistant Corporation Counsel Moore that the price was much too low. Accordingly, the Commission unanimously voted to request that the Law Department make a survey of the area and suggest a reasonable price.

***

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Moseley - Carson Streets, Dorchester

The City Council under date of July 17, approved an order which would transfer 18,232 sq. feet on the northwesterly side of Mosely Street, Dorchester from the care and control of the Commission of the Real Property Department to the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and for the further purpose of transferring said land to the Metropolitan District Commission under the provisions of Section 87 of Chapter 92 of the General Laws.

As Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, is familiar with this entire land transaction which involves other parcels of land involved in this transfer, it was voted to defer action until Mr. McDermott can appear before the Commission.

***

Castle Island

The Secretary informed the Commission that the Metropolitan District Commission has received practically absolute assurance that this area will be transferred to them in the very near future and that a sum of $500,000.00 has been provided under the provisions of Chapter 517 of the Acts of 1961, for the "Construction, Re-construction and Improvement of Castle Island".

***

Deaconess Hospital

The Secretary informed the Commission that at a meeting of the City Council on July 24, the Council voted to sell the Park Land below the surface area adjacent to and in front of the Deaconess Hospital on Brookline Avenue for the sum of $8,100.00 for the "Construction of an Underground Cancer Research Center".

This covers only the underground area, and the Parks and Recreation Commission at their meeting on May 3, had voted to recommend to the City Council the acceptance of Chapter 395 of the Acts of 1960.

***

Cemetery Division

The Secretary informed the Commission that in accordance with Chapter 13 of the Acts of 1961, the sum of $272,000.00 has been appropriated from the General Cemetery Fund to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner for "Cemetery Maintenance and Improvement". Order approved by the City Council on June 26, 1961 and by the Mayor on June 27, 1961. No appropriation was made from regular budget sources in 1961.

The Commission unanimously voted "That whatever funds accumulate from the Cemetery Trust Fund for the year 1961, be made available for "Cemetery Maintenance". This motion will replace the motion adopted at the Commission meeting on January 11, 1961, wherein the Commission voted "That the sum of $49,000.00 be made available for "Cemetery Maintenance" from the accumulated income of the Cemetery Trust Fund for the year 1961."

Franklin Park New Area

Commissioner Snowden and Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that the new play area at the junction of Seaver Street had been completed and it is one of the finest children's playground ever constructed in this or any city.

***

Girls' High School, West Newton Street

The Chief Engineer informed the Commission that advertised bids for the "Erection of a Shelter on the Girls' High School Area" will be opened on August 1, 1961.

***

7/26/61

Dover Street Bathhouse

Secretary distributed to the Commission copy of the Finance Commission Report prepared for the Public Lands' Committee of the City Council in regard to the closing of the Dover Street Bath and Laundry.

A statement covering this report and supplementing several other reports previously sent to the Mayor and other City Officials was read by the Secretary.

***

Arts Festival

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne reported that the Arts Festival Committee are completing the rehabilitation work on the Public Garden in a satisfactory manner.

***

Contracts publicly advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder:

"Grading and Improvements at Central Square, East Boston, Mass."
Contractor: D. Cicconi Landscape Service, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton, Mass. Amount.....$16,202.50

***

Extension of Time on Contract

Contract for "Repairs to Bituminous Pavement at Parks and Recreation Department Roadways in Boston, Massachusetts", time extended for completion to August 15, 1961. Contractor: S. J. Tomasello Corporation, 598 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Massachusetts.

Contract for "Proposed Play Area Development at West Newton Street, Boston, Massachusetts", time extended for completion to August 15, 1961. Contractor: Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., Box 106, Assinippi, Mass.

Contract for "Reconstruction of Play Area at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Massachusetts", time extended for completion to August 1, 1961. Contractor: Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., Box 106, Assinippi, Mass.

***

Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

122 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from an apartment house to a private school. Approved.

***

Under the provisions of Section 22, Chapter 3 of the Revised Ordinances, Arthur J. O'Keefe, Administrative Assistant--Executive Secretary, has been assigned as Acting Commissioner with the approval of His Honor the Mayor during the period of July 28, through August 18, 1961, while Commissioner Walsh is on vacation.

***

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 o'clock p.m.

Secretary

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August 24, 1961

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Ryan Playground, Charlestown
(Schrafft Corporation)

Attorney Gerard Doherty representing the Schrafft Corporation appeared before the Commission and submitted an offer on behalf of his client, the W. F. Schrafft and Sons Corporation, in the sum of $24,600.00 for a parcel of playground property containing 16,400 square feet of land adjacent to the Schrafft Corporation property and a part of the John J. Ryan, Jr. Playground. This offer was a substantial increase from the previous offer of $13,100.00. This latest offer is $1.50 per square foot.

After reconsidering the matter once again, it was voted unanimously by the Parks and Recreation Commission to sell to the W. F. Schrafft and Sons Corporation, Charlestown, Massachusetts, playground property containing 16,400 square feet of land adjacent to the property of the Schrafft Corporation and currently a portion of the John J. Ryan, Jr. Playground, for not less than $24,600.00. It was further unanimously voted by the Parks and Recreation Commission that this particular area of the playground is no longer required for public purposes; and accordingly the Commission voted to accept the offer of the Schrafft Corporation conditioned upon the Schrafft Corporation agreeing to construct as follows: at its own expense shall within one year of delivery of a deed relocate the retaining wall, together with a chain link fence, on the new property line, and back stop, if required, in accordance with the specifications and direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

The Law Department has been requested to draw the necessary order to be presented to the City Council and the Mayor to effect the sale of this property.

***

Roberts Playground, Dorchester

Mr. Richard J. Walsh, Judge Advocate of the Walsh Post of the American Legion, in company with the Commander and the Junior Vice-Commander appeared before the Commission regarding their offer to purchase a section of Roberts Playground containing 1,676.5 square feet of land.

At a previous meeting, the Post Officer had made an offer of $75.00. At the meeting held today, August 24, 1961, the offer was increased to $150.00. The Parks and Recreation Commission informed the officers that they were willing to be of assistance to the post, but it was the considered opinion of all the Commissioners that we should at least obtain a price comparable to the assessed valuation of the playground which is $.20 per square feet. This would make a price on the land of $335.30.

The Commission unanimously voted that this section of the playground was no longer needed for playground purposes, and they therefore recommended the sale of the land to the Walsh Post of the American Legion for a sum of $350.00 in accordance with Chapter 718 of the Acts of 1960, subject to the approval of the City Council and the Mayor.

***

Malden Street, South End

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that the exchange of land between the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston and the Library Department has been completed; and accordingly the Malden Street Play Area location in the South End has been deeded back to the Archbishop, and the matter has now been completed. Notation can be made in the department files to that effect.

***

Chestnut Hill Avenue - Wallingford Road, Brighton 8/24/61

Mr. Carleton Hunneman of the Hunneman Real Estate Company appeared before the Commission in company with Mr. George P. Davis, President of Senior Living, Incorporated, and Mr. Edwin T. Steffian, Architect, regarding their interest in this property. If this property can be obtained from the city at a reasonable price, Mr. Hunneman stated that they would build under F.H.A. Laws a modern middle-class rental housing development for elderly people. The cost of this project would be $1,700,000.00. These apartments would be for elderly people either married or single, and they would bring in substantial tax revenue to the city.

Mr. Hunneman stated that Mr. Hassan of the Boston Housing Authority had informed him that the authority was not interested in the land. Accordingly, before proceeding further, it was unanimously voted by the Commission that a letter be addressed to the Corporation Counsel asking him to solicit all city departments to ascertain if any particular department had an interest in this land.

***

Carter Playground, South End

Attorney Frederick Roche of the Law Firm of Roche, Leen and Maloney, appeared before the Commission regarding the acquisition of a small parcel of Carter Playground located at the rear of the playground and entering from Camden Street, containing 2,836 square feet, by his clients--Bliss and Weiss Family. A narrow driveway at the rear end of the playground does not offer a sufficient safety entrance for the large trucks that service two commercial concerns in the rear of this area.

It was the opinion of the Commission that if this area was to be sold, the the persons acquiring the property should be required to build a retaining wall or high fence to protect the children that might be using the playground. This would be in addition to the price paid for the land. Mr. Roche agreed that this would be done.

It was unanimously voted by the Commission to request the Corporation Counsel to have an appraisal made of the land. When the appraisal is received, the Commission will give the matter further consideration.

***

VFW Parkway (Williams Farm), West Roxbury

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with correspondence covering the possible acquisition of this land by the Lady of the Annunciation Church, now located in the South End District.

No action was taken.

***

Moseley -- Carson Streets, Dorchester

Mr. McDermott of the Law Department stated that the City Council passed an order on July 17, 1961, signed by the Mayor on July 18, 1961, which would in effect cancel out a deed signed on the 14th day of September 1960, wherein the Parks and Recreation Department transferred to the Metropolitan District Commission 10,703 square feet of land situated on the southwesterly side of Sidney Street in the Dorchester District. In place of developing the above mentioned land on Sidney Street, the Metropolitan District Commission will develop as a play area 18,232 square feet of land on the northwesterly side of Moseley Street in the Dorchester District. The following votes were adopted:

"VOTED, To terminate agreement dated September 14, 1960, between the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston and the Metropolitan District Commission relative to the temporary control by the Metropolitan District Commission of a certain parcel of land situated at Sidney and Carson Streets, Dorch

"VOTED, That the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation be authorized in the name and behalf of the Commission to enter into an agreement with the Metropolitan District Commission for the temporary care and control by the Metropolitan District Commission of approximately eighteen thousand two hundred thirty-two (18,232) square feet of land situated on the northwesterly side of Moseley Street, Dorchester District of the City of Boston."

***

8/24/61

New England Deaconess Hospital

Mr. McDermott presented to the Commission today a vote for their consideration covering the use of Joslin Park located in front of the Deaconess Hospital as a Cancer Research Center; the center to be constructed underground.

Accordingly, the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously adopted the following vote:

> "VOTED, that assent is hereby given to the conveyance by the Mayor of the City of Boston to New England Deaconess Hospital of land one (1) foot and more below the surface of Joslin Park and portions of Joslin Road and Deaconess Road with certain rights of access by deed dated August 14, 1961."

The Commission at their meeting on May 3, 1961, voted to recommend acceptance of Chapter 395, Acts of 1960, which would authorize the construction of a Cancer Research Center at this location.

***

Murry Playground, Portsmouth Street, Brighton

The Commission voted that a communication be sent by the Secretary to the Market Cabinet Incorporated, 478 Western Avenue, Brighton, requesting that this company indicate as to what particular use the property was to be put and what sort of a guarantee that they would make as to the construction of a building on this property.

***

Lowell Square, West End

Mr. McDermott stated to the Commission that he contemplates final action covering the sale of this property to the First Methodist Church of Boston for the sum of $15,000.00 which should be completed shortly.

This is in accordance with City Council Order passed July 24, 1961.

***

Commonwealth Avenue (Edison Company)

The Chief Engineer informed the Commission that the Boston Edison Company had completed most satisfactorily the work of replacing loam and reseeding the area along Commonwealth Avenue after installing several lengths of pipe under the mall.

***

Dover Street Bath and Laundry

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest developments during the period that Commissioner Walsh was on vacation that plans have now been made for the boarding up of the laundry, the transfer of the machinery to the Superintendent of Supplies for further disposition and the re-assignment of the remaining personnel at the Dover Street Bath and Laundry in the very near future.

***

Naming of the East Boston Stadium

After considering several communications - pro and con - regarding the naming of the East Boston Stadium to the "East Boston Memorial Stadium", the Commission voted unanimously to lay the matter on the table for consideration at a later date.

***

Extension of Time on Contracts

Contract for West Newton Street Play Area, Boston, Massachusetts, time extended for completion to September 1, 1961, because of Cement Workers' Strike. Contractor: Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., Box 106, Assinippi, Mass.

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8/24/61

Contracts

The following publicly advertised contract was not awarded to the lowest bidder:

"New Shelter, West Newton Street Play Area, Boston, Mass."
Contractor: J. Biotti, Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Mass.
Amount.....$30,708.00

This company has expressed desire to withdraw. Chief Engineer reported that the contract for doing this work will be re-advertised.

***

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 o'clock p.m.

Secretary

October 10, 1961.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:45 o'clock a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty was absent.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Commonwealth Avenue (Telephone Company)

The Secretary read communication from E. B. Moran, District Plant Engineer of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, requesting permission to lay and maintain underground conduits and manholes with wires and cables under the surface to the right of the center section on Commonwealth Avenue from Berkeley Street to Hereford Street, and to make connections with such poles and buildings as desired for distributing purposes. This is in accordance with Plan C-8, dated October 9, 1961.

The Commission on vote of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor unanimously voted to grant permission with the understanding that the work be completed as early as possible in the spring of 1962, and under the same conditions setforth in the permit granted to the Boston Edison Company under date of September 21, 1960.

***

Castle Island, South Boston

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the permit granting the F. E. Daddario Corporation of 73 Tremont Street to enter upon Castle Island, South Boston, with trucks and equipment necessary for the construction of a bridge and fence on Pleasure Bay, South Boston, in connection with the contract granted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Secretary informed the Commission that he has on hand insurance certificates in sufficient amounts for the granting of this permit.

***

Roberts Playground, Dorchester
(Walsh Post, American Legion)

On vote of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Blake it was unanimously voted to sell 1,676.5 square feet of land to the Walsh Post of the American Legion for the sum of $350.00.

It was further voted to ask the City Council to prepare the necessary order for the sale of this property, with the approval of His Honor the Mayor.

***

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

Upon the suggestion of Mr. McDermott, this matter was laid on the table until a future meeting.

***

Chestnut Hill Ave.--Wallingford Rd.,
Brighton

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that he is awaiting a reply from the Boston Redevelopment Authority as to their interest in this land.

***

Mr. McDermott reported on the following matters which have been considered by the Commission at previous meetings:

Schrafft Corporation, Charlestown.---Pending in City Council
Deaconess Hospital.---Deed delivered-($8,100.00 shortly to be paid City of Boston)

10/10/62 Moseley--Carson Sts., Dorchester.---Awaiting vote of BRA
Lowell Square, Boston.---Deed being prepared
Chestnut Hill Ave.--Commonwealth Ave., Brighton.---In City Council
Carter Playground, South End.---Being appraised

***

Boston Common (Damaged Benches, Parkman Plaza)

Secretary reported that benches were damaged by an automobile. Law Department will collect full damage from the insurance company.

***

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

The Commission unanimously adopted a vote expressing their sincere thanks to the Gillette Company for their kind offer to spend $50,000.00 in rehabilitating the above mentioned playground.

The Commission approved the granting of a permit to the Gillette Company to proceed to engage an architect and contractor for doing this work.

***

Commonwealth Avenue 573 - 589
(plans for new motel)

This location although not under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Department was called to the attention of the Commission because of close proximity to Park Department property.

***

Arts Festival

The Secretary read a communication from Mr. Diggory Venn thanking the Parks and Recreation Commission for their kindness to him over the years in connection with the Arts Festival, and informing the Commission that he was severing his association with the Arts Festival Society.

***

Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

63 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from a one family dwelling to a dormitory. Approve

148 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from a lodging house to a dormitory. Approve

222 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from one to three apartments as per plan on file. Work to be done on the first three floors. No work or occupancy on the fourth floor. No work in the basement. Approve

315 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from a lodging house to a dormitory. Approve

318 Commonwealth Avenue - "Erect a connecting balcony". Approve

320 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy - Propose to remodel two apartments per floor including the basement, making it a total of ten (10) units all with new plumbing, wiring, individual baths and individual kitchens. Approve

128 Commonwealth Avenue - The erection of a gold leaf sign 43½" x 18 to be placed flat against building, readi "Junior Chamberlayne College" Established 1892. Approve

***

Contracts

Since the last board meeting, the following contracts have been awarded t all low bidders:

10/10/61

"Constructing a Shelter Building at West Newton Street Play Area, South End, Boston, Mass." Contractor: D. M. Manzelli, Inc., 1098 Mass. Ave., Arlington, Mass.
Amount.....$35,[illegible]50.00

"Grading, Surfacing and Improvements at John W. Murphy Playground, Jamaica Plain 30, Mass." Contractor: D. Cicconi Landscape Service Corp., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton, Mass.
Amount.....$39,522.50

"Proposed Improvements at James F. Healy Playground, Washington St., Roslindale, Mass." Contractor: Arthur Schofield, 265 Old Conn. Rd., Wayland, Mass.
Amount.....$21,302.50

"Repairs and Replacements of Park Benches at Boston Common and at Other Locations within the Park System."
Contractor: John J. Botti, Co., Inc., 1050 Adams St., Dorchester, Mass.
Amount.....$ 9,428.00

"Replacing Concrete Blocks in Walks in the Park System."
Contractor: D. Cicconi Landscape Service, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton, Mass.
Amount.....$10,350.00

***

Extension of Time on Contracts

"Developing Burial Areas and Resurfacing Roadways at Parks and Recreation Department Cemeteries". Time extended for completion of work to November 1, 1961. Contractor: D. F. Frangioso & Co., 155 Savannah Ave., Mattapan, Mass.

***

The Secretary read to the Commission Directive #18 from Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services Department, regarding "New Pre-Employment and Health Medical Program" for the City of Boston Employees.

Under this program, the City has established a new set of rules for all city employees coming within the Workmen's Compensation Act, except the uniform forces of the Fire, Police and School Departments.

Copy of Directive is in the department files.

***

Barry Playground, Charlestown (Glendale Fuel Co.)
Construction of Chain Link Fence

Lieutenant Governor Edward F. McLaughlin, Jr. called with regard to the construction of a chain link fence about 200' in length bordering the new construction facility of the Glendale Fuel Company bordering on the Barry Playground, Charlestown.

For a number of years the Glendale Fuel Company had a building that abutted our playground and to which we had erected a chain link fence on both ends of the building. There seems to be some question as to the responsibility of continuing the fence now that the building has been torn down and a new facility constructed by the Glendale Fuel Company, actually removed from the border line.

It was decided by the Commission that it was the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department, and accordingly the Assistant Chief Engineer Mr. George O'Neil was requested to arrange for the erection of the additional fence.

***

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 o'clock noon.

Arthur D. Keefe
Secretary

November 14, 1961.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 35 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 A.M.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty and Daniel C. O'Connor. Associate Commissioners Harry J. Wicks and O. Phillip Snowden were absent.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Parker Hill
(Mission Hill Post of American Legion)

The Commission was informed that under date of October 12, 1961, the City Council unanimously approved Chapter 450 of the Acts of 1960, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO CONVEY CERTAIN PARK LAND TO MISSION HILL POST #377, AMERICAN LEGION INC.

Mr. McDermott of the Law Department informed the Commission that the Mayor's approval was not required. All the Commissioners had received a telegram from officials of the Legion Post asking favorable action on this matter.

Mr. Donald Graham, Planning Administrator of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, was present at the meeting and presented to the Commission definite reasons for the retention of this area by the Parks and Recreation Department, because it fits in with future plans of the Boston Redevelopment Authority. As a result of Mr. Graham's presentation, it was unanimously voted by the Commission that no action be taken.

***

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe informed the Commission of a recent meeting with Mr. Turley of the Gillette Safety Razor Company, and Mr. Eldridge, Architect for the company, in which plans were discussed for the rehabilitation of the playground at a cost of $50,000.00, contribution of the Gillette Company.

The Commission was informed by the Secretary that the Gillette Company was considering plans for the rehabilitation of Independence Park adjacent to the C. J. Lee Playground.

***

Lowell Square, Boston

The following vote was adopted in regard to the conveyance by the Mayor of the City of Boston to the First Methodist Church of Boston:

"VOTED: That assent is hereby given to the conveyance by the Mayor of the City of Boston to the First Methodist Church in Boston of land and buildings situated on the northerly side of Cambridge Street, Boston, known as Lowell Square and West Church, being dated November 9, 1961."

***

Irving H. Adams Park, Roslindale Square

The Commission unanimously voted, after approval by Mr. McDermott of the Law Department, the deposit of a check in the amount of $460.04 balance remaining in a special fund after the erection of a monument to Veterans of World War I by the Roslindale War Memorial Association.

According to Mr. McDermott, this is in accordance with Article 2 of Superior Court Equity Case No. 61698, Suffolk Superior Court. Deposited with Collector-Treasurer, November 17, 1961.

***

11/14/61

John J. Ryan Playground, Charlestown
(New England Telephone & Telegraph Co.)

Secretary called to the attention of the Commission that approval had been given to the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company to lay and maintain underground conduits and manhole with wires and cables under the surface of the John J. Ryan Playground, Charlestown, in accordance with plan marked New England Telephone & Telegraph Company, No. C-9 dated October 9, 1961. Permit required so that the Telephone Company together with the Fire Alarm and Police Signal will be able to make a submarine cable crossing to the Everett side of the Mystic River. This is for municipal purposes.

***

West Newton Street Play Area
Girls' High School Site

Construction of this building is being re-advertised and bids will be opened on December 5, 1961.

***

Christmas Festival

Secretary read letter from R.H. Stearns Company forwarded to Commissioner Blake stating that in connection with the Christmas Festival they will erect a 92 foot Christmas Tree with 2,000 lights in front of their store.

***

Public Garden

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commission that there was considerable vandalism on the Public Garden during the summer months, but through the co-operation of the Police Department we are now receiving twenty-four hour police service.

***

Building Permits referred by Building Department to Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

50 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from forty apartments to forty-one apartments. Approved.

270 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from six apartments to twenty-five apartments. Approved.

465 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from a lodging house to nine apartments. Approved.

***

Contracts

Since the last meeting, the following contracts have been awarded to all low bidders:

"Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways in Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury, Mass." Contractor: Dooley Bros., Inc., 39 George St., Roxbury, Mass.
Amount.....$12,670.00

"Furnishing & Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in Boston, Mass." Contractor: Blueview Nurseries, Inc., 32 Gaston St., Roxbury, Mass.
Amount.....$4,186.00

"Furnish a New Granite Support and Polished Monolithic Granite Seat in the Parkman Plaza, Lafayette Mall, Boston, Mass." Contractor: Sciaba & Co., Inc., 50 Shawmut Avenue, Boston, Mass.
Amount.....$2,300.00

"Furnishing Attendants and Maintenance Service at the Convenience Stations on Boston Common" - Contractor: Clean-Brite, Inc., 125 Border St., East Boston, Mass.
Amount.....$12,485.00

***

11/14/61

Boston Redevelopment Authority

Mr. Donald Graham, Planning Administrator of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, made the following recommendations with respect to the demolition of certain playground field houses:

WILLIAM J. CARVEY PLAYGROUND, DORCHESTER. A neighborhood group, the Neponset Civic Association is currently pressing for repair of the field house and formulation of a year round recreation program at Carvey Playground, and have discussed the matter with Commissioner Walsh, per attached letter from Commissioner Walsh to Mr. James Leahy and attached Neponset Civic Association. Any action on the field house should be held in abeyance pending the results of these negotiations.

READVILLE PLAYGROUND, HYDE PARK. Any expenditures made here should be to improve the grounds. The field house should be demolished.

BROOKSIDE AVENUE PLAYGROUND, JAMAICA PLAIN. Although this facility is within a GNRP, it is a lower priority area, and it appears unlikely the renewal plans would necessitate the continued use of the structure in present condition and location. If it means an operating savings to the Parks and Recreation Department, the field house should be demolished.

GEORGE ROWE PLAYGROUND, ROXBURY. For reasons similar to those stated above, this field house, too, should be demolished. However, due to the imminence of the final plans for the Roxbury-North Dorchester GNRP, it would be most unwise relations, in my view to without taking action here until the GNRP plan has been made public, thereby reassuring the community, should the issue arise, that our action is not inconsistent with the plan.

The Commission unanimously voted to arrange for the demolition of the field houses on Readville Playground and Brookside Avenue Playground. On the Carvey and Rowe Playgrounds at Mr. Graham's suggestion, it was voted to hold in abeyance the demolition of these two field houses until the matter had been discussed with local residents and associations.

***

Parking in Playgrounds

The Secretary read to the Commission copy of letter from Thomas J. Carty, Traffic Commissioner, that had been forwarded to James E. Kelley, Commissioner of Public Works, setting aside eight playgrounds as possible sites for the parking of vehicles during snow storms.

It was unanimously voted by the Commission not to allow parking at any time on the following playground areas:

1. Cherry Street and Beacon Avenue
2. Tyler Street, Dorchester
3. Nelson Playground, Saratoga St., East Boston
4. Rutherford Avenue and Union Street, Charlestown
5. Snow Hill Street and Prince Street, North End
6. Ridley Playground at Harvard Street, Dorchester
7. Everett Street and Lee Street, Dorchester
8. Dacia Street and Dennis Street, Roxbury

***

Commission recessed at 12:30 P.M. for lunch and then visited the following five park locations:

1. Lowell Square, Boston
2. Schrafft Company, Charlestown
3. Chestnut Hill R. - Wallingford Rd., Brighton
4. Chestnut Hill--Commonwealth Ave., Brighton
5. Meridian Hill, Roxbury

***

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

Arthur J. Keefe
Secretary

December 13, 1961.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

Discussion of this matter was placed upon the agenda at the request of Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel. Mr. McDermott was called away from the meeting on an assignment by his Honor the Mayor so the discussion of this particular matter was laid on the table until the next meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Carter Playground, South End

Mr. McDermott of the Law Department had planned to submit to the Commission a final report covering the appraisal and acquisition of a strip of playground land containing 2,836 square feet. Because of the fact that Mr. McDermott was not available, the matter was placed on the table until the next meeting.

* * *

Schrafft Company, Charlestown -- (Ryan Playground)

The Commission were informed that the City Council, by a vote of 9-0, approved the sale of a strip of land containing 16,400 square feet to the Schrafft Company for the sum of $24,600.00. The secretary informed the Commission that the sale will take effect upon the second vote of the Council and approval by the Mayor.

* * *

Roberts Playground, Dorchester

The Commission are in receipt of an official notice from the City Clerk that the City Council on December 4, and the Mayor on December 6, approved the sale of a small parcel of land on this playground to the William Gary Walsh Post No. 369 of the American Legion in accordance with Chapter 718 of the Acts of 1960. The Commission, at their meeting on Tuesday, October 10, had voted unanimously to sell this land to the Walsh Post for a sum of $350.00.

On motion of Mr. Snowden, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, it was voted to request the Law Department to prepare the necessary papers to effect the sale of this property.

* * *

Carson--Moseley Streets, Dorchester

The Commission at the meeting today hoped to be in a position to make a final decision on these two parcels of land but, because of the absence of Mr. McDermott of the Law Department, no definite decision could be made.

VOTED: To lay the matter on the table until the next meeting.

* * *

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

Mr. William Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, appeared before the Commission in connection with the claim of Shurcliff and Merrill for payment for additional professional services in connection with the development on Lafayette Mall. At a meeting of the Commission on June 1 of this year, Shurcliff and Merrill made claim for an additional $2,136.00. Mr. Kerr of the Law Department stated that he thought the settlement could be made with a maximum payment of $1,600.00.

12/13/61

On motion by Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted that Mr. Kerr and Mr. Byrne, Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, make their report to the Commission with recommendations as to settlement.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary reported to the Commission that the City Council, at their meeting on December 11, gave a first reading to the request of His Honor the Mayor to allow the sale of this land to the Turner Associates, Inc.

At the same meeting the Council voted to grant authority to increase the height limit of the building to be constructed on this area from 70 feet to 155 feet.

The Secretary called to the attention of the Commission a communication received from the Turner Associates, Inc. in which they have elected to extend the time of the agreement entered into on May 5, 1961, between the City of Boston and the Parks and Recreation Department to April 1, 1962. This request has been made so as to enable the City of Boston to comply with the provisions of Article 4 of the agreement covering the sale of this property to the Turner Associates.

On motion by Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was voted to accept the communication from the Turner Associates covering their determination to extend such an agreement.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road

Mr. Kerr of the Law Department read to the Commission a communication from Peter Tuchon, President of Homes, Inc., addressed to Mayor John F. Collins offering $13,500.00 for eleven acres of park land at the above location. Mr. Tuchon informed his Honor that if Homes, Inc. were able to purchase this land, they would construct thereon a middle income housing development. The Secretar informed the Commission that there are two other offers pending on this propert and accordingly, by unanimous vote of the Commission, the request of Homes, Inc was placed on file for future consideration.

* * *

West Newton Street (Play-site)

The Secretary informed the Commission that on Tuesday, December 5, the Commissioner, the Chief Engineer, the Secretary, the Director of Recreation, an the District General Foreman of the South End District, held a meeting with Mr. Bemis and Mr. Foster, members of the Mayor's Recreation Advisory Committee, in connection with the program at the new children's playground, South End.

At the present time there are three persons assigned to this new playgroun and their salaries are being paid through a special appropriation under the United Community Services.

As a result of this meeting, it was agreed that the Director of Recreation Mr. Ryan, would arrange for the proper supervision of the personnel assigned to the playground and Mr. Collins, the District General Foreman, will assist in th overall maintenance of the area.

* * *

Commissioner Walsh informed the other Commissioners that he recently held a meeting with Mr. Dee and Mr. Hall of the U. S. O. Voluntary Committee regardi the removal of the Buddies Club Buildings on Boston Common. This is a matter that has had the active attention of the Commission for the past few years. Th Commission on many occasions have expressed the desire to have these buildings removed which have been on the Common illegally for many years.

12/13/61

Commissioner Walsh stated to the Commission that he expected that some action would be taken by the Buddies Club Committee, and he informed the Commission that Mr. Dee and Mr. Hall had promised to send in a communication covering future use of this property.

It was unanimously voted by the Commission to take no action pending a report from Mr. Dee or Mr. Hall.

* * *

The Commission discussed again the possible removal of the kiosks owned by the M. T. A. and used as subway entrances on Lafayette Mall. The discussion at the meeting brought out the fact that the removal of these kiosks is required so that we might maintain the beauty of the Common and the new development on Lafayette Mall.

This matter has been discussed over the past few years on previous occasions and there has been an interchange of communications and a meeting with the engineering staffs of the M. T. A. and the Park Department regarding the removal of these structures.

It was unanimously voted by the Commission to call the matter to the attention of Mr. McLernon, the present General Manager of the M. T. A. The last correspondence in relation to this matter was prior to the appointment of Mr. McLernon.

The Commission will await a reply from Mr. McLernon.

* * *

Contracts

The attention of the Commission was called to the following publicly advertised contract which was awarded to the lowest bidder: December 5, 1961

"Constructing a Shelter Building at West Newton Street, Play Area, South End, Boston, Mass."

Contractor: Domenick Puleo, 11 Meehan Street, Jamaica Plain 30, Mass.

Amount.....$36,666.00

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m.

Secretary

* * * * * * * * *

January 17, 1962.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary informed the Commission that the City Council unanimously approved on December 11 and 27 and the Mayor approved on December 28 the sale of 64,000 square feet of land at the above location to the Turner Associates Trust, 15 State Street, Boston. Included in the order was the approval of the elimination of the height restriction under Chapter 41, Section 18, of the Ordinances of 1947, so that a building may be erected on this site to a height of not more than 155 feet.

Since the last meeting ten taxpayers have filed suit in the Superior Equity Court in an endeavor to prevent the Parks and Recreation Commission from selling this property. Mr. William McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, appeared in court on Tuesday, January 16, and he informed the Commission that Judge Frank J. Murray had issued a restraining order forbidding the City from giving a deed title to this property.

The case will be called at a later date and Mr. McDermott will keep the Commission informed.

* * *

Walsh Playground, Dorchester

Mr. McDermott, the Assistant Corporation Counsel, presented to the Commission at this meeting the official deed completing final action on the sale of this property to the William G. Walsh Post No. 69, American Legion, in accordance with Chapter 718 of the Acts of 1960.

Commissioner Martin F. Walsh signed the deed on behalf of the other members of the Commission.

* * *

Lowell Square, West End

Final action on the sale of this property to the First Methodist Church was laid on the table until the next meeting.

* * *

Carter Playground, South End

The Secretary read to the Commission the appraisal of the Petitti Realty Company covering the sale of a strip of this playground land containing 2,836 square feet. The appraiser retained by the City Law Department submitted an appraisal amount of $3,250.00.

At the conclusion of the regular order of business, the Commission recessed and made a visit to the playground to personally inspect the property that was being considered for sale.

At the site, the Commission unanimously voted to acknowledge receipt of the appraisal and to lay the matter on the table to be further discussed at a later date.

* * *

1/11/62

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

Discussion on the sale of this property has been before the Commission since 1957, and approval for the sale is covered under Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1958.

When the Commission recessed today, they made a personal visit to the Ross Estate to observe at first hand the land that the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukranian Catholic Church, Inc. desires to acquire. The land in question is quite hilly, of a very rugged terrain, and much of the area is covered by deep-rooted rock formation. This land was acquired some years ago by the city under a gift, has never been developed, and in the opinion of the Commission will never be suitable for park purposes or development.

At this meeting the Commission unanimously adopted the following vote:

VOTED: To recommend to the City Council and the Mayor that the property conveyed to the City of Boston by two deeds, one recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 6071, Page 534, and a second deed, recorded with Suffolk Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 168167, and held by the City of Boston for public parks purposes, be sold and conveyed to Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukranian Catholic Church, Inc., in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1958, for the sum of not less than fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00).

If this sale is finally completed, the Commission, in accordance with the request of the Public Works Department, will reserve a strip of land for the widening and extension of Sigourney Street, Jamaica Plain, as indicated on plan filed in Parks and Recreation Department Engineers' Office.

* * *

Carson--Moseley Streets, Dorchester

Mr. McDermott discussed with the Commission the park land at these two locations and our present records indicate that the Metropolitan District Commission will develop on one location a play area on 18,232 square feet of land on the northwesterly side of Moseley Street under an agreement dated August 24, 1961.

The other parcel of land, temporarily controlled by the Metropolitan District Commission, situated at Sidney and Carson Streets, is now before the City Council Land Committee in an order which will transfer this property from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Real Property Department. This particular parcel of land is not suitable for playground development, and we have very extensive recreation facilities in the immediate vicinity.

* * *

Schrafft Company, Charlestown

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that the deed covering the sale and development of this property was delivered to the Schrafft Company on January 1, 1962.

* * *

Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to address a communication to the Redevelopment Authority asking if they have any particular interest in this land that is required for further development of Fairview Cemetery.

* * *

1/17/62

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

Secretary read communication from Mr. Thomas J. McLernon, General Manager of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, regarding the removal of the Subway Kiosks on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common. No action was taken pending further report from Mr. McLernon.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

At the conclusion of the reading of communication from Mr. Kelsey of the U. S. O. regarding contemplated improvements and other changes at the Buddies Club, upon motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was unanimously voted to invite Mr. Kelsey and other U. S. O. officials to the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

In the meantime Mr. McDermott of the Law Department will look into the legal phase of the right of the Buddies Club to be on Boston Common.

* * *

Parker Hill Playground, Roxbury

Secretary read to the Commission the communication of December 27 addressed to Mayor John F. Collins by Dr. Richard A. Overholt which stated that the Parker Hill Planning Commission are of the opinion that this particular area should be really developed with first consideration being given to the construction of tax producing property.

Commissioner Martin F. Walsh informed the Commission that he was present at the meeting on December 27 and stated that the Commission is in accord with the recommendations of the Parker Hill Planning Commission.

* * *

Boston Redevelopment Authority (Government Center)

Commissioner Walsh and Mr. Byrne, Chief Engineer, informed the Commission that, if and when the Government Center is completed, much of the area that comes under municipal authority will be under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Department for landscaping purposes.

Mr. Reiber of the Development Authority is the representative of the Development Authority in connection with the new Government Center, and he informed the officials of the Parks and Recreation Department of the responsibility of the department in this new development.

* * *

Transfer of Trust Funds Income

The following votes were offered to the Commission and were unanimously adopted at this meeting:

VOTED: That His Honor the Mayor be requested to ask the City Council to transfer the total income of the George F. Parkman Fund for the year 1962, approximately $175,000.00, to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner as follows: "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement Of".

VOTED: The Commission go on record as favoring the use of an appropriation from the General Appropriation Fund for maintenance and improvement of cemeteries as allowed by Chapter 13 of the Acts of 1961. The amount of money to be taken from the fund for cemetery budget purposes is to be determined by the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Department and the Office of Director of Administrative Services.

1/17/62

VOTED: That there be made available for cemetery maintenance within the Budget Appropriation such accumulated income of the Cemetery Trust Funds as may be required for the year 1962.

Vote, proposed by Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner Blake was unanimously adopted by the Board.

* * *

Deaconess Hospital

Permission has been granted to the contractor to make test borings for the Cancer Research Center to be constructed under ground in Longwood Park.

* * *

Upon approval of the Chief Engineer, the following permit has been granted

Change of occupancy - 269 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

Change of occupancy from five apartments to six apartments - new apartment in basement front - new kitchen and new bathroom all rooms are existing.

* * *

The Commission recessed at 12:10 p.m. in order to visit the Carter Playgr in Roxbury and the Ross Estate in Jamaica Plain.

After visiting these two locations, the Commission formally adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * * *

February 6, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, and O. Phillip Snowden. Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake was absent because of illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Buddies Club, Boston Common

The Parks and Recreation Commission were favored with the attendance of the following representatives of the U. S. O.: Ephron Catlin, Jr., President, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce; Robert R. DeSimone, Secretary to Honorable John F. Collins, Mayor of Boston; Lt. Colonel Harold H. Heath, Vice Chairman, Executive Committee, U. S. O. Military Council of New England; Robert P. Kelsey, Jr., Massachusetts U. S. O. State Chairman; Robert L. Lee, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company; Richard H. Bond, U. S. O. Regional Executive; Harry Hymanson, U. S. O. New England Regional Director; and Clifford H. May, Director, National U. S. O. Building Services.

Mr. Robert P. Kelsey, Jr., Chairman of the U. S. O., stated that the U. S. O. were to concentrate most of their activities in the Boston area. This was to be a focal point for all service activities. He said that the national office of the U. S. O. would furnish the money for the repairs to the interior of the Buddies Club and that the money for the repairs to the exterior was to be raised privately by a committee headed by Robert L. Lee, Vice-President of the John Hancock Insurance Company. The total cost of the interior and exterior repairs are to be approximately $28,000.00. Lt. Colonel Heath of the United States Marine Corps spoke of the desire of the Armed Services to set up a complete new national program with the cooperation of the U. S. O. in all sections of the country.

Mr. Ephron Catlin, Jr., President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, and Robert L. Lee of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company expressed their keen interest in helping the U. S. O., but both of these gentlemen stated that they realized that the Park Commissioners and the City Government were in a rather difficult position with regard to grating permission for rehabilitation work at the Buddies Club. Other members of the U. S. O. commented briefly on the value of the services being furnished to the members of the Armed Services.

Commissioner O'Connor spoke at length and explained to the committee that, although our Commission has the very highest regard for the U. S. O. and the important group of citizens who give of their time and effort to the Buddies Club program, the Commission is powerless to grant permission for rehabilitation work because the U. S. O. buildings on Boston Common are there illegally and have been over these several years. It was pointed out by Chief Engineer Byrne and Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott that the only recourse that the U. S. O. has is to petition the legislature for special legislation for the construction of a building on Boston Common for this particular purpose.

Because of the fact that the buildings are on the Common illegally and have been all these years, there is no authority whereby the Parks and Recreation Commission may grant permission for doing the work contemplated and the U. S. O. committee left the Commission meeting with this understanding.

* * *

47 Commonwealth Avenue and 290 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

Plans were submitted to this department on the above two locations.

47 Commonwealth Avenue

Plans were submitted to the Commission at the meeting. The Commission adjourned to visit this location, took note of the contemplated alterations, and voted unanimously to support the disapproval of the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr.

2/6/62

290 Commonwealth Avenue

When the regular Commission meeting recessed, the Commissioners visited the site and voted to take no action at the present time.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary informed the Commission that the Turner Associates have called at this office and deposited a certified check in the amount of $20,000.00 in accordance with Section 6 of the agreement dated May 5, 1961.

At the present time the department is holding $27,500.00 in certified checks as a guarantee for the construction of the building on this site. We must await further action of the ten taxpayers' suit pending in Suffolk Superior Court.

* * *

Carson--Moseley Streets, Dorchester

The Secretary informed the Commission that since the last meeting he has talked with Walter Malloy, the City Clerk, and information has been received that the Mayor has withdrawn the order with regard to Moseley Street because this land will be developed by the Metropolitan District Commission.

The Mayor has substituted an order now pending before the Land Committee r the transfer of the remainder of the park land at Sidney and Carson Streets f the Parks and Recreation Department to the Real Property Department.

No action was taken at this meeting.

* * *

Carter Playground, South End

Attorney Fred Roche was present at the meeting and he was informed by th Commission that they would expect that he would arrange with his clients to construct a new retaining wall, a new fence, reset the childrens' shelter equ- ment, and do other work indicated by Commissioner Walsh or the Chief Engineer before consideration could be given to selling the property. These items wou become a part of the deed along with the appraisal price.

No further action was taken pending report from Mr. Roche and Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott.

* * *

Lowell Square, West End

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, informed the Commission th His Honor the Mayor had signed a deed to the First Methodist Church covering the sale of park and library property under date of January 22, 1962.

Accordingly, the following vote was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission:

> VOTED: That assent is hereby given to the conveyance by the Mayor of the City of Boston to the First Methodist Church in Boston of land and buildings situated on the northerly side of Cambridge Street, Boston, known as Lowell Square and West Church, being dated January 22, 1962.

* * *

Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park

No further action was taken pending a survey report from the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

* * *

2/6/62

Contracts

The following publicly advertised proposal opened since the last meeting was approved by the Mayor, February 5, 1962:

"Repairs to Refectory Building at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass."

Lowest bidder: John J. Botti Company, Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts.....$31,286.00

Extension of Contract

"Repairs and Replacements of Park Benches at Boston Common and at Other Locations Within the Park System"

John J. Botti Company, Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts,

Time of the contract extended to April 30, 1962.

* * *

The Commission recessed at 12:30 in order to visit 47 and 290 Commonwealth Avenue.

After visiting these two locations, the Commission meeting was officially adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * * * *

February 12, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, and O. Phillip Snowden. Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake was absent because of illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

290 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

The Commission considered plans submitted for elevator alterations and additions to the apartment building at the above location. These plans with request notice from Building Department dated January 25, 1962, are an amendment to plans submitted with request notice of Building Department dated November 8, 1961. These plans of November 8, 1961, called for the change of occupancy from six apartments to twenty-five apartments (only) and were signed on that basis by the Chief Engineer and Chairman of the Commission on November 10, 1961, and confirmed at the Commission meeting November 14, 1961.

At the meeting of the Commission held February 6, the meeting recessed to visit the location to view the contemplated work to be done, and the Commission took due note of the fact that work had already been started and a special enclosure for the elevator extended several feet above the roof. This had been done without official approval from the Parks and Recreation Department.

On motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was unanimously voted to deny the application.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

The Commission were notified that permission has been granted to the Boston Edison Company to occupy approximately 1,200 feet of park property at the outbound side of the Mall in the vicinity of Dartmouth Street for the purpose of storing a one-ton vacuum pump truck, a six-ton pulling winch truck trailer, and a two-ton cable splicing trailer. This equipment is to be used for the installation of cables through the transmission lines placed on Commonwealth Avenue during last year. The Edison Company will pay a special fee for this privilege.

* * *

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

The Chief Engineer in company with the Director of Recreation visited the C. J. Lee Playground in South Boston with Mr. Eldridge, Architect for the Gillette Company, in relation to the improvements to be made by this company on this playground.

The Chief Engineer and the Director of Recreation discussed all phases of the plans for the improvement of Lee Playground, what would be required with regard to recreation equipment, etc. Future meetings will be held as plans are developed.

* * *

Contract

The following contract was advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder:
"Demolition of Buildings, Boston, Mass."
Contractor: William J. Banfield, 263 Rutherford Avenue,
Charlestown, Mass.....$1,495.00
Locations -- Brookside Avenue -- Readville Playground
Recommendation Boston Redevelopment Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * * *

March 13, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Thomas J. Carty. Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden were absent.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

290 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

Judge Charles F. Mahoney appeared before the Commission and submitted new plans relating to the construction of an elevator tower on the roof of the above location. This matter had been before the Commission previously and the planned construction had been denied.

Following the meeting with Judge Mahoney, the Commission instructed the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and the Assistant Corporation Counsel, William A. McDermott, to inform Judge Mahoney to re-submit the new plans to the Building Department for approval of that department. They will then be considered by the Commission upon re-submission to the Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department.

* * *

47 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

New plans were submitted eliminating the request to add two stories to this structure. The plans as amended call for leaving the building four stories high as at present, providing for kitchen and baths for ten families.

These amended plans were approved by Chief Engineer Byrne and Commissioner Walsh on February 20 and this approval was confirmed at today's meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Castle Island

The Secretary informed the Commission that the General Services Division in Washington, D. C., has approved the transfer of this property from the Federal Government to the Metropolitan District Commission. The transfer of this land, which has been under the care, custody, and control of the Parks and Recreation Department for several years, has been held up because the Metropolitan District Commission would not agree to maintain this area as a national historic site.

Under the latest agreement, part of it will be a national historic site and the balance will be a recreation area for the development of which the Metropolitan District Commission has substantial funds. The transfer should be made very soon and the Parks and Recreation Department will be officially notified.

* * *

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

Secretary read to the Commission letter addressed to His Honor the Mayor from Commissioner Walsh requesting that a meeting be held with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Congressman John W. McCormack, and officials of the Department of the Interior, to the end that the Federal Government might declare this site a historic one in fact and not in name only. It is hoped that the Federal Government might assume all the maintenance costs of this historic site.

* * *

3/13/62

Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park

Notice has been received from the Boston Redevelopment Authority under date of March 6 that, after considerable study, the planning section of the authority has recommended and approved the extension of the cemetery on the grounds that it is compatible with the general plans for Hyde Park and that said land is not needed for redevelopment purposes by the authority.

This action was approved by Donald M. Graham, Planning Administrator, on February 19, 1962, and by the members of the Development Authority at a meeting held on February 28, 1962.

Request has been made upon His Honor the Mayor, through Henry T. Brennan Supervisor of Budgets, to present an order to the City Council requesting tha a special appropriation of $15,000.00 be set aside from "Sales of City Lands" for the purpose of acquiring this land.

* * *

Alsen Playground, Victory Road, Dorchester

Request has been received from the Kearney Trucking Company to acquire the remainder of this playground land, not used for playground purposes, as a site for the future development of their trucking operations. This concern is now located at 50 Park Street, Dorchester, in close proximity to the above land.

An order has been pending before the City Council for some period of time in which this Commission requested that the land be transferred to the Real Property Department. Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that, if and when the land is transferred, the Real Property Department will be required to sell it at public auction.

* * *

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

Mr. McDermott reported that the City Council at a meeting on March 12 conducted a hearing relative to the sale of this property to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukranian Catholic Church, Inc., for the sum of $15,000.00. This was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 17, 1962. No further action was taken by the Commission at this time.

* * *

House Bill No. 804 -- Franklin Park, Metropolitan District Commission

The Secretary read to the Commission the contents of House Bill No. 804, 1962, which would have the Metropolitan District Commission construct and maintain a swimming pool and artificial covered ice-skating rink at Franklin Park.

The Commission, after considering this matter, voted unanimously not to allow the construction of this facility in the contemplated location as it would do irreparable harm and destroy the character of Franklin Park. The area under consideration is in close proximity to the golf course and a large rest and picnic area within the park.

The Commission further voted to send a communication to the Corporation Counsel requesting that the legislative agent for the city be instructed to oppose this bill.

* * *

3/13/62

Commonwealth Avenue Mall

The Chief Engineer informed the Commission that the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company will shortly start construction work on conduits and manholes for which permission was granted on October 11, 1961.

The Chief Engineer further reported that the telephone company will be required to restore the area to the same condition as presently exists and in accordance with the excellent work done by the Edison Company on a similar permit in 1961.

* * *

Contract

The following publicly advertised proposal was opened on Tuesday, March 6:

"Painting at the "L" Street Bath House, South Boston, Massachusetts"

Bidders were:

R. Tweed & Son, Jamaica Plain.....$20,116.00
Avondale Painting Co., Inc., Boston.....$25,381.00
H. Piken & Company, Inc., Boston.....$28,200.00
Bond Painting Company, Lynnfield .....$40,100.00
S. Rosenthal & Son, Inc., Cambridge.....$41,620.00

It was recommended to His Honor the Mayor that the contract be awarded to the lowest bidder--R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

April 4, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

290 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

This matter has been before the Commission for the past three meetings. The latest plans with amendments were re-submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission. These plans received the approval of Mr. Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., the Chief Engineer, and accordingly, on a motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted to allow the construction of an elevator penthouse on the roof, and further to allow the designation of the ground floor as the first floor and the first floor as the second floor.

* * *

47 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

Alterations at this location have been before the Commission on two other occasions. The Commission are familiar with the site having visited it at one of their former meetings.

Amended plans having the approval of the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., were re-submitted to the Commission at today's meeting calling for the following:

> "Add a floor between fourth floor and roof to make building five stories high. Roof to be no higher than at present. Add two bath rooms and two kitchens to provide living quarters for two additional families."

Upon motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to approve the changes and allow the construction.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue and Wallingford Road, Brighton

Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott requested that we write to Donald M. Graham, Planning Administrator of the Redevelopment Authority, and ask him for immediate action as to the interest of the authority in this land.

* * *

Cabot Street, Roxbury

On motion by Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted to request the Law Department and the Mayor to arrange for the transfer of 215-217 Cabot Street, Roxbury, containing 5,760 square feet, from the Real Property Department to the Parks and Recreation Department. This land is to be used for a fuel storage tank for the Parks and Recreation Department building.

* * *

Franklin Park Swimming Pool--Skating Rink

The Commission are of the opinion that, if these rinks are to be constructed, the work should be done on Franklin Field and not at Franklin Park. The matter is laid upon the table until plans and report have been submitted from Mr. Max Straw of the Metropolitan District Commission.

* * *

4/4/62

Pitts and Hale Street, West End

No action was taken on the communication of Kane Simonian, Executive Director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, regarding the acquisition of this land by the authority until Mr. William A. McDermott of the Law Department has a chance to investigate further.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Burlington--Woburn 4/4/62

Mr. McDermott reported to the Commission that, in accordance with the terms of the deed given to the High Voltage Company, the Parks and Recreation Department has two years in which to exercise its right to remove the loam from the property sold to the High Voltage Company.

* * *

Smith Playground, Brighton

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission that the Barletta Company Roslindale, Massachusetts, has been given permission for a sewer easement thro the Smith Playground in Brighton, and they have been further allowed to park a trailer in accordance with the contract that they have with the Metropolitan District Commission for the construction of the Charles River South Sewer.

It is necessary to use this playground so that this sewer line may go fro the Charles River and cut across the center area of the Brighton district. I is expected that the work will be completed some time in June, 1962.

* * *

Dorchester North Cemetery, Uphams Corner

The Commission unanimously voted to support Commissioner Walsh in his effort to obtain the old convenience station, adjacent to the cemetery and actually a part of it, as an office and storage room for the cemetery.

A letter is to be forwarded to the Law Department requesting that they take the necessary steps to effect the transfer.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue---Height Limit on Buildings

The secretary informed the Commission that the Legislature has given a first reading to a bill which would remove building height restrictions on all buildings on Commonwealth Avenue. This bill will require another approval of the House, two approvals of the Senate, and the signature of the Governor befo it can become law.

* * *

Name of Play Area, Girls' High School, South End

Before granting approval of the naming of this play area after Thomas F. O'Day, the Commission requested that Commissioner Walsh ascertain from His Hon the Mayor his interest in having the area so named.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival

The Commission were favored with the presence of Nelson W. Aldrich, Mrs. Allison Evans, John Hawes, and Dr. Richardson of the Arts Festival Committee. Considerable time was spent by the Parks and Recreation Commission going over the new plans of the Arts Festival covering the re-location of the festival on Boston Common. The Commission was highly in favor of the plans submitted by Mr. Aldrich, and they would be pleased to recommend to His Honor the Mayor for consideration the re-location of the Arts Festival.

4/4/62

The new section on Boston Common offers much for the future development of the Arts Festival, and it was the opinion of the Commission that this festival would become greater known than at present if the new plans could be put into effect.

As a result of the meeting, the following vote was adopted:

"That the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the re-location of the Boston Arts Festival to a site on Boston Common to be determined by Commissioner Martin F. Walsh, representing the Commission, and Nelson W. Aldrich, representing the Boston Arts Festival Committee, provided the site can be prepared to the satisfaction of the Commission and the Arts Festival Committee, effective for the season of 1962."

* * *

Convenience Stations, Boston Common

The secretary reported to the Commission that the license has been completed for the operation of the Convenience Stations with Clean-Brite, Inc., East Boston, for a term of one year from December 1, 1961, to November 30, 1962, in the amount of $12,485.00. His Honor the Mayor approved a letter of award on November 13, 1961, and the agreement was finally completed by the Law Department and signed by the Mayor on March 23, 1962.

* * *

The Commission was notified that the following Building Permits have been granted upon approval of the Chief Engineer:

64 Commonwealth Avenue --- Legalize occupancy for 12 apartments; modernize kitchens and baths.

362 Commonwealth Avenue -- Remodel part of 5th floor only. Provide for 5 apartments, 4 new kitchens, 3 new baths. New sprinkler heads in new kitchens. Cut opening in wall or rear stairs. Remove some non-bearing walls and build some non-bearing walls. Wirelath vermiculite plaster all separating partitions. All as shown on plans filed.

* * *

Contract

The following publicly advertised proposal was opened on Wednesday, March 28, 1962, "Furnishing and Installing New Heating Boiler at Locker Building Franklin Field, Dorchester, Massachusetts."

Bidders were:

| | |
|---|---|
| P. J. Janis Plumbing & Heating Company, Jamaica Plain | $8,485.00 |
| Sellars Oil Burner Service, Inc., Medford | 8,961.73 |
| Seltzer & Company, Inc., Allston | 9,275.00 |
| M & S Heating Company, Somerville | 9,300.00 |
| J. A. Marino Automatic Heating Company, Boston | 9,355.00 |
| Davho Company, Inc., Brighton | 10,200.00 |
| John J. Hoban & Son, Peabody | 11,067.00 |

It was recommended to His Honor the Mayor that the contract be awarded to the lowest bidder--P. J. Janis Plumbing & Heating Company, 10 Brookley Road, Jamaica Plain.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

May 9, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Common (Ancient Honorable Artillery Company)

The Commission were notified that the Ancient Honorable Artillery Company, after an absence of a few years, are to return to Boston Common on Monday, June 4, for their annual Drumhead election of officers. This affair, formerly held on the parade ground of Boston Common, will this year be held in the Boston Common area adjacent to and in the rear of the Shaw Memorial.

* * *

Girls' High School, West Newton Street, South End

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission the great difficulty he is having with Dominick Puleo, the contractor who is constructing the shelter building at this location. It appears that the contractor is paying no attention to specifications and instructions of Mr. Byrne and his engineering staff, is not doing the work in conformity with the contract, and for several weeks he had just refused to cooperate.

Accordingly, Mr. Byrne informed the Commission that a letter was sent to Mr. Puleo asking him to report to the Commission office to talk over the situation with Commissioner Walsh. This he refused to do. Following this a special delivery registered letter was sent notifying Mr. Puleo that he had failed to faithfully furnish and perform everything that was required on the contract, and that, acting under the terms of Article 21, he was notified to discontinue the work.

A letter was forwarded to Arthur G. Coffey, Corporation Counsel, informing him that Mr. Puleo failed to heed this notice, and therefore, Commissioner Walsh requested that the Corporation Counsel obtain an injunction to force him to discontinue the work as ordered.

* * *

Carson Street, Dorchester

The Secretary reported that Commissioner Walsh, Chief Engineer Byrne and he attended the City Council meeting on April 16 at which time the Executive Committee of the City Council considered the transfer of this property to the Real Property Department. Members of the Real Property Department staff and one member of their Commission were also in attendance.

After considerable discussion the City Council laid the request for transfer on the table to be taken up at a later date. Mr. McDermott. Assistant Corporation Counsel, reported to the Commission that he is of the opinion the Council will not take action for some period of time.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival

Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest developments regarding the 1962 Arts Festival and he informed them that the Festival will be held on the Public Garden from Thursday, June 21, through Sunday, July 8.

5/9/62

The Arts Festival Committee have been given the privilege of entering upon the Garden on Friday, June 1, with the necessary equipment in connection with the arrangements for the Festival, and they have been allowed until Friday, July 13, to remove all equipment from the Public Garden. As in former years, the Arts Festival Committee must renew all the grass areas and replace the sod which has been destroyed as a result of the holding of the Arts Festival. This work is to be done under the direction of Commissioner Walsh and at the expense of the Arts Festival Committee.

The Commission were further notified that Mr. John Ransford Watts, General Manager of the Boston Arts Festival, has been informed by Commissioner Walsh that this is to be the final year of the Festival on the Boston Public Garden, and that commencing in 1963 arrangements will be made to hold the Festival on the area on Boston Common agreed upon by Nelson W. Aldrich, Architect and member of the Festival Committee, and Martin F. Walsh, Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the fact that, under date of April 25, the Metropolitan District Commission placed with the General Services Administration of the Federal Government a check in the amount of $4,750.00. This check satisfied the requirements of the Metropolitan District Commission's application to acquire Fort Independence on Castle Island, South Boston.

It is expected that within the very near future the Regional Council of the Federal Government will arrange for the transfer of the title to the property to the Metropolitan District Commission. When this is effected, the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department will cease to maintain this area which has been under their custody since 1907.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue, Wallingford Road

The Commission were notified and had read to them a communication dated April 23, 1962, from Donald M. Graham, Planning Administrator of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, stating that the Planning Department of the Boston Redevelopment Authority no longer has any objection to the release of all, or part of this site, for an attractive, low density, private residential development. Mr. McDermott of the Law Department stated that the Commission should wait until they have firm offers for the property.

* * *

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission on the planned developments on this playground which are to be undertaken by the Gillette Safety Razor Company. Plans showing the complete development of this playground as well as Independence Park adjacent to the playground were presented to the Commission by Mr. Byrne.

The Commission expressed their great pleasure in the plans and gave their enthusiastic endorsement to the work that is to be undertaken, and further complimented the Gillette Company for this fine civic action.

* * *

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott reported to the Commission that he is in the process of the preparation of a deed transferring this property from the City of Boston to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church, Inc. He expects that the transfer will be completed within the next week or ten days.

* * *

5/9/62

Chestnut Hill Avenue, Commonwealth Avenue

The Commission were informed by Mr. McDermott that, since the last meeting of the Commission, he appeared in the Superior Court before Judge Gourdin in relation to the ten taxpayers' suit to prevent construction of the high-rise housing apartment on this land. Both sides presented briefs to Judge Gourdin. He listened to the arguments and then he informed the attorneys that a decision would be forthcoming at a later date.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue, (Telephone Company)

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne stated to the members of the Commission that the telephone company are proceeding with the laying of a main underground conduit and manholes under the center mall at Commonwealth Avenue, in accordance with the permit granted October 11, 1961.

* * *

Franklin Field, Dorchester, Swimming Pool

The Commission were informed by the Secretary that a redrafted bill has been submitted to the House of Representatives in place of House Bill #804. The original bill would have allowed the Metropolitan District Commission to construct a swimming pool and skating rink in Franklin Park. This was objected to by the Commission at their meeting of April 4.

This redrafted bill would allow the construction of the same facility on Franklin Field in a section selected by the Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department. This area, set forth in the new bill, is to be presented to the House of Representatives. This bill was read to the Commission by the Secretary, and they voted unanimously to concur with the redrafted bill for the construction of this facility in the new location.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn 5/9/62

Secretary read to the Commission the communication from the High Voltage Company, dated April 13, regarding the removal of loam from property on this estate formerly owned by the City of Boston. Mr. McCarthy, Vice President and Comptroller of the High Voltage Engineering Corporation, stated that the removal was subject to the ordinance of the Town of Burlington and he hoped to have further information by Friday, April 20. No word has been received from Mr. McCarthy and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with him further.

* * *

Golf Courses

The Secretary read to the Commission the new ordinance regarding the use of the Boston Municipal Golf Courses by those over seventy-five years of age.

In reference to Franklin Park, Clause 149 of Section 1 of Chapter 30 of the Revised Ordinances of 1961 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

> Any person who has held a license for the five consecutive years immediately preceding his obtaining the age of 75 years shall thereafter be granted a license without payment of the fee provided herein for the playing of golf throughout the year.

In reference to George Wright, Clause 150 of Section 1 of Chapter 30 of the Revised Ordinances of 1961 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

> Any person who has held a license for the five consecutive years immediately preceding his obtaining the age of 75 years shall thereafter be granted a license without payment of the fee provided herein for the playing of golf throughout the year.

* * *

5/9/62.

For Information of the Commission

The Secretary read to the Commission a communication from Frank P. Cohen, President of Temple Israel, regarding the construction of a new moving picture theater adjacent to the Temple on Commonwealth Avenue. A reply sent to Mr. Cohen stated that this particular area is under the control of the Public Work Department and further that a hearing would probably be held by the Zoning Boa at which he could appear and enter a formal complaint for the Trustees of Temp Israel against the construction of the theater.

Secretary read two communications from the Law firm of Herrick, Smith, Donald, Farley & Ketchum regarding the appropriation of $1,500.00 from certain trust funds held by their office for the beautifying of lower Commonwealth Ave nue. Some legal difficulties have arisen in regard to this offer so that the matter will be laid on the table for the time being.

* * *

Girls' High School, West Newton Street

The Commission were informed that His Honor the Mayor has expressed an interest in having the new playground area at Girls' High School, West Newton Street, named in honor of Thomas F. O'Day, late Editor of the City Record. His Honor, however, has not formally notified the Commissioner about the namin of this area. Accordingly, a unanimous vote was adopted by the Commission tha if and when the Mayor so notifies Commissioner Walsh that the area is to be named for Thomas F. O'Day, it has the unanimous endorsement and vote of the Commission.

* * *

The following changes of occupancy and alterations have been approved by Commissioner Walsh upon recommendation of Chief Engineer Byrne:

84 Fenway -- Legalize basement apartments

47 Commonwealth Avenue -- The plan now shows a penthouse which did not show on original plan.

278 Commonwealth Avenue --
280 Commonwealth Avenue -- Change occupancy from lodging house to dormito
282 Commonwealth Avenue -- These will all be taxable.
325 Commonwealth Avenue --

Secretary read a communication from the owner, Robert O. Tillinghast, 280 Commonwealth Avenue.

* * *

CONTRACTS

All recommended to the Mayor for award to the Low Bidder--

1. "Painting at the L Street Bathhouse, South Boston, Massachusetts."
R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain. . . . . $20,1

2. "Furnishing and Installing a New Heating Boiler at Locker Building, Franklin Field, Dorchester, Massachusetts."
P. J. Janis Plumbing and Heating Company, 10 Brookley Road, Jamaica Plain. . . . $8,485.0

3. "Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Mass."
D. Cicconi Landscape, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton. . . .$12,927.5

4. "Furnishing and Installing a New Heating Plant at Cabot Street Bathhouse, Roxbury, Massachusetts."
Sellars Oil Burner Service, Inc., 366 Salem Street, Medford. .$33,561.2

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5. "Repairs to Bituminous Pavement at Parks and Recreation Department Roadways in Boston, Massachusetts"
Baker & Company, Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Boston . . . .$4,995.00

6. "Asphalt Re-surfacing at Captain Louis Polcari Playground, Boston, Massachusetts"
Baker & Company, Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Boston . . . .$2,711.25

7. "Trimming of Trees at the Public Garden, Boston Common, and Commonwealth Avenue, between Arlington and Kenmore Streets in Boston, Massachusetts"
D. Cicconi, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton. . . . . $12,150.00

Extension of Contract

"Repairs and Replacements of Park Benches at Boston Common and at other Locations within the Park System"
John J. Botti, Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts, to June 30, 1962.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Arthur J. O'Keefe
Secretary

* * * * * * *

June 27, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

* * *

The first order of business by the Commission was to take action on the death of our late Associate Commissioner and valued friend, Thomas J. Carty. The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Commission:

RESOLUTION

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, wishing to take due recognition of the death of Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty and to express sympathy to his family it was resolved that:

The members of the Parks and Recreation Commission learned with regret of the death on Tuesday, June 12, 1962, of our Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty after eight years of outstanding and devoted service to the City of Boston through his membership on this Commission.

It comes to few men to have the opportunity of giving service of so high a character. His sound judgment and wise counsel were often sought and always respected, and his public service was a source of edification to all. The benefits resulting from this public service will last as long as the Parks and Recreation Department exists.

The years of his active and splendid life were dominated by a love of Boston and particularly of the park system, and during his years on this Commission he worked always to preserve and beautify the parks and playgrounds of his native city.

In a more personal way, the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission deeply regret the loss of a good friend and a valued associate. His wisdom, his exemplary life, his kindliness and his devotion to duty will long be remembered.

It is further resolved that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the records of this Commission and that a copy be forwarded to his widow.

* * *

Re-appointment of Harry J. Blake

The secretary read the announcement of the re-appointment of Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake by His Honor the Mayor for the term ending May 1, 1966. The oath of office was taken by Commissioner Blake on May 11, 1962.

* * *

Medal of Merit Award to Daniel G. O'Connor

The secretary informed the other members of the Commission of the award of a Medal of Merit to Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor by Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., as the outstanding alumnus of the year 1962.

Commissioner O'Connor received the congratulations of the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Commission staff.

* * *

6/27/62

Transfer of Land to the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

The Commission took final action and approved the deed covering the transfer of two parcels of land from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Metropolitan District Commission, Charles River Reservation, to the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, required by Section 85 of Chapter 92 of the General Laws. This transfer had been approved by the Metropolitan District Commission on March 8, 1962, and by the Parks and Recreation Commission on June 15, 1962.

* * *

W. F. Schrafft & Sons Corporation -- Ryan Playground

Mr. McDermott of the Law Department reported that no final action has been agreed upon by the Schrafft Company covering the acquisition of this land.

* * *

Forest Hills Street Land

Mr. McDermott reported that this land has been acquired by the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church, Inc. The sum of $15,000.00 has been paid by the church for the land. The deed was recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds on June 15 and the $15,000.00 was deposited with the City Collector on June 25.

* * *

Boston Common

Commissioner Walsh reported to the Commission that he has come to an understanding with Mr. Thompson of the Foundation Company regarding the final work required for the rehabilitation of the parade grounds and the athletic field on Boston Common. Steps are being taken to have Boston Common restored to the same condition that existed prior to the erection of the garage.

* * *

Copley Square

The Secretary informed the Commission that a notice was received from the Board of Appeal regarding the change of height contemplated for the building at the corner of Clarendon Street and Boylston Street from 80 feet to 154 feet. This is reported to the Commission because it is within 100 feet of Parks and Recreation Department property.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

The Commission was informed by the Secretary that, pending the final transfer of this property to the Metropolitan District Commission, temporary custody of the island has been given to the Metropolitan District Commission. It was reported by the Secretary that there is some question now as to how much of the island is to be acquired by the Metropolitan District Commission through Federal action.

Accordingly, a letter was addressed to Mr. Paul Baronis of the United States Army Corps of Engineers on June 11 requesting that the government take action to turn the entire area over to the Metropolitan District Commission in accordance with the signed agreement of March 15, 1907, by William Howard Taft, Secretary of War, and the Joint Resolution of Congress of May 1, 1890.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Commissioner Walsh reported that two sections of the North Station and one section of the South Station as well as a possible location at the Logan Airport have been offered to the officials of the Buddies Club.

6/27/62

It was unanimously voted by the Commission that Commissioner Walsh talk with Mayor Collins regarding a notification that would be sent to the officials that October 1, 1962, would be the final date when the Buddies Club could occupy Boston Common.

* * *

Mount Hope Cemetery -- Veterans' Lot

The Commission discussed the future interments of veterans in the Veterans' Lot at Mount Hope Cemetery. The Secretary brought out that the areas remaining will possibly cover interments for the next year and after that time new areas would be required. Accordingly, it was unanimously voted by the Commission to have Commissioner Walsh enlist the aid of Mayor Collins towards assisting all veterans' groups to obtain a site for a national cemetery in New England.

Other sections of the country have national cemeteries and the government assumes the expense which has been borne by the City of Boston for these many years. It was brought out at the meeting that various veterans' groups are appreciative of the fine contribution by the city and they would be only too happy to have a national cemetery in New England.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival, Public Garden

The Arts Festival is now in full operation, starting on June 21 and continuing through July 8.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue -- Telephone Company

Mr. Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., reported to the Commission that the telephone company will extend complete cooperation in regard to the permanent restoration of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall after the completion of the conduit work under a permit granted on October 11, 1961. Permanent resurfacing of the road and walk ways will be completed shortly, and permanent reseeding and rehabilitation of the ground areas will begin during the first week of August, 1962.

* * *

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission the results of their meeting with Mr. Palmer, Mr. Small, and Mr. Crouch of the National Parks Service of the Department of Interior on Thursday, June 21, at the Parks and Recreation Department office.

The restoration of Dorchester Heights and the care and control of the area have been discussed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on many occasions. The general discussion on June 21 consisted of the vandalism at this particular location and also throughout Boston and that found in other sections of the country by the government officials. It was brought out that the prestige of the Federal Government and Federal policing of this area would be a great preventive of the constant vandalism at Dorchester Heights and it would give proper respect to this historic area.

The Federal representatives are submitting a report to their superior officer in Washington, D. C., who in turn will report recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Department in Boston. It is hoped that, as a result of the recommendations, a future meeting may be held in Boston at which Mayor Collins will be in attendance for a discussion of the possible transfer of this property to the Federal Government.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn 6/27/62

Secretary reported that a meeting will be held on Thursday evening, June 28, at the Board of Appeals in the Town of Burlington regarding the request of the Parks and Recreation Department to remove loam from city land sold to the High Voltage Engineering Corporation of Burlington, Massachusetts, in accordance with the deed. This matter has been discussed at previous meetings of the Commission and it is hoped that final action might be taken.

* * *

B and Third Streets, South Boston

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission that this parcel of land containing approximately 12,000 square feet, acquired by the department in 1909, is no longer needed for park or playground purposes This general area is commercial in nature. Accordingly, on a motion by Commissioner Showden, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted to ask the Boston Law Department to make an appraisal of this land.

* * *

Girls' High School, West Newton Street

Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., the Chief Engineer, reported that on June 19 bids were opened for further construction work on the shelter building at the Girls High School play area, West Newton Street, South End. It is hoped that the work here might be completed on a contract that had been originally awarded to Dominick Puleo who had been removed from further work on this contract because he had failed to furnish and perform everything required and he had substantial breached the contract. This matter has been discussed by the Commission at oth meetings and they are familiar with all the details.

* * *

Independence Park -- Lee Playground

The Chief Engineer and Secretary reported to the Commission that permissio was granted to the Gillette Safety Razor Company through their contractor, W. I MacDonald and Company of Quincy, to enter into Independence Park to do construc work as outlined by the plans submitted under date of June 6, 1962. This is pa of the rehabilitation work planned and paid for by the Gillette Safety Razor Co

* * *

Pitts and Hale Streets, West End

On a motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was voted to accept the offer of the Boston Redevelopment Authority in the amou of $17,100.00 for approximately 4,141 square feet of land owned by the Parks ar Recreation Department and acquired by the Boston Redevelopment Authority in the redevelopment of the West End. By this vote, the Commission authorized Commiss Martin F. Walsh to execute a deed with the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

* * *

Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway

Mr. McDermott reported to the Commission that a bill had passed the legislature, signed by both branches of the legislature and the governor, which woul allow the City of Boston, through the Parks and Recreation Department Commissio the Mayor, and the City Council, to sell this property as a site for a church. matter is not properly before the Commission so no action was taken.

* * *

6/27/62

Deaconess Hospital

The Commissioners were informed that permissionhas been granted to the George B. Macomber Company to provide two 36" caissons to determine water levels. This is in connection with the construction of the proposed radiation research center of the Deaconess Hospital with which the Commission is familiar.

* * *

The following alteration has been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer:

152 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

"Remodel existing conservatory on the fifth floor to make two bedrooms and one bath. Remove present french windows between columns of conservatory exterior wall and replace with brick panels and new Anderson double hung windows. Replace glass roof with 2" plank and tar and gravel roof.

Extend existing fire escape on Dartmouth Street side up one story to serve new bedroom."

* * *

The following contracts and extensions and changes have been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

Contract

"Repairing and Painting Greenhouses at Franklin Park, West Roxbury,"

R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain.....$9,443.00

Extension

"Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways in Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury,"

Dooley Bros. Company, Inc., 39 George Street, Roxbury...to June 1, 1962

"Proposed Improvements at James F. Healey Playground, Washington Street, Roslindale,"

Arthur Schofield, 265 Old Connecticut Path, Wayland, Mass..to July 2, 1962

Change Order

"Repairs to Refectory Building at Franklin Park, West Roxbury"

John J. Botti Co., Inc., 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester

| | |
|---|---|
| Additions | $1,113.50 |
| Deductions | 114.00 |
| Net Total Addition | $ 999.50 |

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

July 25, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Daniel G. O'Connor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

* * *

Resolution for Thomas J. Carty

The Secretary reported that a copy of the resolution that was adopted at the meeting on June 27 has been prepared and has been forwarded to Mrs. Thomas J. Carty, widow of our late beloved Associate Commissioner.

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commission that he had asked Mr. John H. O'Neill, Jr., Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, to discuss this with His Honor. No definite report has been received, but Commissioner Walsh is of the opinion that the naming of the Parade Ground on Boston Common for the late Associate Commissioner Thomas J. Carty will receive the approval of the Mayor.

* * *

Joseph M. Walsh, Superintendent

The Secretary reported to the Commission that it is with regret that we report the sudden death of Joseph M. Walsh, Superintendent, on June 29, 1962. Mr. Walsh was in his fifty-eighth year and he had completed thirty-six years and three months of service.

A large delegation from the department was in attendance at the funeral service on July 2, 1962, and a number of employees attended the burial service.

* * *

West Newton Street Playground -- Girls' High School Site

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that Aliberti Bros., Inc. are now completing the construction of a field house at the above mentioned site in place of Dominick Puleo who had been removed from the job for failure to complete the work in accordance with the agreement. The appropriation remaining in Dominick Puleo's contract will be paid to Aliberti Bros., Inc. in accordance with the transfer arranged by the City Auditor.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn 7/25/62

The Secretary reported that a communication from the High Voltage Engineering Corporation indicated that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Burlington, meeting on June 28, 1962, and again on July 8, are to make an appraisal of the situation regarding the removal of loam from park land which had been sold to the High Voltage Engineering Corporation. The Board has taken the matter under advisement.

* * *

Pitts and Hale Streets, West End

Assistant Corporation Counsel Lawrence J. Moore reported that the final papers for the sale of the above property to the Boston Redevelopment Authority have been completed and the sum of $17,100.00 has been deposited with the City Collector and placed in the account, "Sales of City Property."

* * *

7/25/62

Independence Park, South Boston -- C. J. Lee Playground

The Chief Engineer reported to the Commission that the development of a new children's play area on Independence Park, South Boston, has been started by the W. F. MacDonald Company, Inc. of Quincy. This is in connection with the long range program for the rehabilitation of the C. J. Lee Playground adjacent to Independence Park to which the Gillette Safety Razor Company has contributed $50,000.00.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

The Secretary informed the Commission that since the last meeting of the Board, a report had been sent under date of July 6 to Henry A. Scagnoli, the Director of Administrative Services, setting forth in detail the Commission's reasons for requesting the removal of the Buddies Club from Boston Common.

The Commission were also informed that, under date of July 17, a letter was addressed to the Honorable Haven Parker, a copy of this letter being sent to Mr. Robert P. Kelsey, State Chairman of the U. S. O. Both of these gentlemen are affiliated with the operation of the Buddies Club. In the communicatio covering the history of the operation of the Buddies Club, they were informed that the Commission expected that the Buddies Club would be demolished and a ne site obtained by October 1, 1962.

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel of the Boston Law Department, informed the Commission that an official legal notice terminating the use of Boston Common by the Buddies Club has been sent to the proper officials. The effective date of the removal is to be October 1, 1962.

* * *

West Third and B Streets, South Boston

Notice has been received from the Boston Law Department that Daniel M. Driscoll, 18 Oliver Street, has been retained by the Law Department to make an appraisal of land at West Third and B Streets in South Boston in accordance with the vote of the Commission at its meeting on June 27.

* * *

Evergreen Cemetery--Chestnut Hill Road

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne discussed with the Commission the possibility of the extension of Evergreen Cemetery in the Brighton district to include part of Chestnut Hill Road and another adjacent park area.

Presently in the 1963 budget there is an appropriation of $20,000.00 earmarked for the repavement of Chestnut Hill Road. It was decided by the Commiss to hold up expenditure of this money for the present until a definite policy is determined as to the future development of Evergreen Cemetery.

* * *

Cabot Street and North Bennet Street Bath Houses

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that, currently under two separate contracts, we are installing new heating systems in the two bath house mentioned above. These are oil burning systems which will replace the soft coal ones.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commission that the Public Garden is being rehabilitated and reconditioned after the recent Arts Festival, and that becaus of the steel strike, the frame of the stage has not as yet been removed.

* * *

7/25/62

Parkman Fund

Secretary acquainted the Commission with the controversy in the City Council over the use of $175,000.00 of the Parkman Fund for maintenance purposes. The original order was turned down by a vote of 4--3. His Honor the Mayor has resubmitted the order with the understanding that, if the appropriation is approved this year, the income from the fund in 1963 will be used entirely for improvements in the department on the locations which come within the Parkman will.

* * *

Board of Zoning Adjustment Notice of Decision

The Secretary read a Notice of Decision of the Board of Zoning Adjustment which will allow a new 16-story building to be erected at 180 Beacon Street.

* * *

City Council Notice

The Commission were acquainted with Section 40A, Chapter 29 of the Revised Ordinances of 1961 which now reads as follows:

> Section 40A: No person owning, keeping, harboring or having control of a dog shall permit it to foul any sidewalk of any street in the city.
>
> In City Council June 25, 1962. Passed.
> Approved by the Mayor July 5, 1962.

* * *

The following alteration has been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer:

270 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

Change of occupancy from physician's offices to dormitories.

* * *

The following contracts and change order have been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

Contracts

"Completing the Construction of a Shelter Building at West Newton Street Play Area, South End, Boston, Mass."

Aliberti Bros., Inc., 411 Salem Street, Wakefield, Mass.

| | |
|---|---|
| Contract Price... | $29,918.00 |
| Amendment..... | 680.00 |
| Adjusted Contract Price... | $30,598.00 |

"Furnishing and Installing New Heating Plant at North Bennet Street Bath House, Boston, Mass."

J. A. Marino Automatic Heating Co., 18 Union Park Street, Boston, Mass. $39,940.00

"Sub-Soiling and Concrete Liners at Mount Hope and Evergreen Cemeteries, Boston, Mass."

D. F. Frangioso & Co., 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan, Mass." $37,310.00

1/25/62

Change Order

"Painting at the 'D Street Bath House, South Boston, Mass."

R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Mass...$20,116.00
Change..---------

Total Contract.$20,116.00

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

August 14, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:50 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Daniel G. O'Connor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Buddies Club, Boston Common

The Secretary read the letter from Judge Haven Parker, dated August 7, requesting an appointment with Commissioner Walsh to discuss the future of the Buddies Club. The reply to Judge Parker indicated that he would be welcome to appear before the Parks and Recreation Commission at the meeting today.

Judge Parker did appear and he stated that he wished to thank the Commission for its kindness in allowing the Buddies Club to remain on the Common all these years. He indicated that the directors were willing to move from the Common, but would appreciate an extension beyond the October 1 date. After some discussion, both Commissioner Walsh and Associate Commissioner O'Connor indicated that sufficient time had been given to move, and they were of the opinion that the Buddies Club should be off the Common by October 1. Judge Parker was informed that the Commission would hold fast to the date set for the removal.

The details regarding the removal of the buildings and by whom must be considered after the U.S.O. and the Armed Forces Club have removed their furniture and fixtures.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

The Secretary informed the Commission of the latest communications regarding the transfer of Castle Island to the Metropolitan District Commission, especially the communication of July 30 from J. M. Geoghegan, Chief of the Real Estate Division, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and the reply of Commissioner Walsh on July 31.

Although the communications definitely indicate the manner in which this transfer shall be completed, Mr. McDermott, the Assistant Corporation Counsel, requested that the Commission officially go on record as relinquishing all of the rights of the City of Boston under the Instrument of Consent from the Secretary of War, dated March 15, 1907, without the encumbrances of the Instrument of Consent; accordingly, the Commission unanimously agreed that this become a part of the official records of today's meeting.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest communication from Hunneman and Company, Inc., dated August 13, regarding the possible acquisition of this land by Senior Living, Inc., clients of Hunneman and Company. The communication indicated that the corporation was ready to build some two hundred units and further that they would not confine their objective to those over sixty-two, but rather they would include units available for moderate income people of lesser years whose income discourages them from public housing and yet who cannot pay high commercial rents.

Hunneman and Company are proceeding to have an appraisal made of this land so that they might make a firm offer to the city. Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, reported to the Commission that he understands that another individual has entered the field who is interested in acquiring this property so that currently four different groups have expressed interest.

* * *

8/14/62

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

Mr. Byrne, the Chief Engineer, brought the Commission up to date on the progress being made at the C. J. Lee Playground. He reported that the tot-lot area in Independence Park is nearing completion, and that soon the Gillette Safety Razor Company, through its contractor, will proceed with work on the larger playground.

A group from the Parks and Recreation Department greenhouse have been assigned to do the trimming of the hedges and the cutting of the grass, etc. in Independence Park.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue (Height restrictions)

The Commission was acquainted with the communication of Mayor John F. Collins, dated August 2, which covered in great detail the Mayor's interest in having the Commission take the necessary steps to increase the height limit on the construction of new buildings on Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Kenmore Square.

Mr. McDermott stated that there is much work to be done before the change of height restrictions would become law. The height of the buildings will be definitely tied in with the set-back restrictions. He stated that in order to get rid of the present height restrictions, we must first dispose of the set-back restrictions.

A bill submitted before the legislature last year, although having substantial support for the change, was lost somewhere in the closing days of the legislature.

Mr. McDermott further stated that the big question is--has the Commission the power to do what is being asked? He thinks in many respects we do not have the power although other legal minds are of the opinion that the Commissic does have the power. After much discussion, the Commission determined, in orde to make progress, that they must go ahead on the assumption that they do have the power.

Accordingly, the Commission on a vote offered by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Blake, unanimously ordered:

> In Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, the 14th of August, 1962.
>
> ORDERED:--That due notice be given, that this Commission is of the opinion that, in said city, a public improvement should be made, consisting of the discontinuance of the existing building line on each side of Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Beacon Street, established by vote of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Boston on August 3, 1896, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1893 and Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1896, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 2386, Page 11, for the purpose, among others, of eliminating the 70-foot height restriction resulting therefrom; that it intends to pass an order for making said improvement; and that it appoints 10 o'clock A.M., of September 12th, 1962, and it appoints the City Council Chamber as the time and place for a public hearing in the matter.
>
> A true copy of an order passed by said Commission on said day.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * *

September 12, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the City Council Chamber, Boston City Hall, at 10:00 a.m. and in the City Council Library at 11:45 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh; Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden; Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer; William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel; and Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

* * *

This regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called for the particular purpose of considering at a public hearing the order adopted at the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 14, 1962, and which appeared in the Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Boston Record-American, and the Christian Science Monitor on August 25, and August 30, 1962.

The Executive Secretary read the following ad:

> In Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, August 14, 1962,
>
> ORDERED: That due notice be given that this Commission is of the opinion that, in said city, a public improvement should be made, consisting of the discontinuance of the existing building line on each side of Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Beacon Street, established by vote of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Boston on August 3, 1896, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1893 and Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1896, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 2306, Page 11, for the purpose, among others, of eliminating the 70-foot height restriction resulting therefrom; that it intends to pass an order for making said improvement; and that it appoints 10 o'clock A. M. of September 12th, 1962, and it appoints the City Council Chamber, as the time and place for a public hearing in the matter.
>
> Martin F. Walsh, )
> Chairman )
> O. Phillip Snowden ) Parks and Recreation Commission
> Daniel G. O'Connor )
> Harry J. Blake )
>
> A true copy of an order passed by said Commission on said day.
>
> Attest: Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary.

Commissioner Martin F. Walsh presided at the hearing and those favoring and those opposed to the order were heard by the Commission. At the conclusion of the hearing, Commissioner Walsh made the announcement that the matter considered at the hearing would be taken under advisement by the Commission. The hearing was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

* * *

The Commission reconvened in the Library of the City Council to consider the following matters on the agenda:

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commission that present plans call for the demolition of a portion of the Buddies Club starting on October 1, 1962. The smaller section of one of the buildings will be left there for the storage of equipment until about January 1, 1963, when it will be moved to the new U. S. O. Servicemen's Headquarters on Boylston Street, near Tremont Street.

* * *

9/12/62

Franklin Field Swimming Pool and Skating Rink

Secretary reported to the Commission that the Metropolitan District Commission are planning to start immediate construction of the skating rink and swimming pool in Franklin Field, and that a permit has been granted to the Metropolitan District Commission to place a sign on the property indicating the site of the construction.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

The Secretary read to the Commission the letter from the Boston Edison Company indicating that they are the owners of a parcel of land on Chestnut Hill Avenue bounded by Chestnut Hill Avenue, Ledgemere Road, and Burkland Terrace, containing 44,000 square feet, which they purchased some years ago as a site for a sub-station.

It was reported to the Commission that the Boston Housing Authority are contemplating taking this parcel of land by eminent domain for the purpose of constructing a home for the elderly on this site. The Boston Edison Company, therefore, are seeking a new location in the immediate area, and they would like to acquire a portion of the park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Wallingford Road.

It was voted by the Commission to invite a representative of the Boston Edison Company to a future meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Since the last meeting, the following alterations have been approved by the Chief Engineer:

4-5 Arlington Street, Ward 5

"Katherine Gibbs School at Six Arlington Street is adjacent to this building. Connecting double glass automatic-closing fire door will connect the two buildings. Other intercommunicating doors will be provided from the second floor to the fifth in order to provide the required double egress from the rooms. New fire escape will be provided to carry to the ground from the one-story wing. Kitchens in each of the apartments will be removed. Five lavatories will be added in place of the kitchen sinks. Fire alarm system will be installed in each floor. Front entrance doors will be hung to swing in direction of the egress."

186 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"Construct a new penthouse for the rebuilding of the existing elevator. Enclose the existing elevator shaft with 2" plaster over wire lath. All as plans submitted."

* * *

The following contracts have been awarded since the last meeting to the lowest bidder with the approval of the Mayor:

"Asphalt Resurfacing of Walks at Franklin Square, Boston, Mass."
Albert C. Claglia Company, Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester..$11,530.50

"Resurfacing of Asphalt Walks on Boston Common, Boston, Mass."
Martin J. Kelly Company, Inc., 75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain.$27,680.00

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

October 18, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:45 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Appointment of Frederick A. Meagher

Secretary read the official notice of the appointment of Frederick A. Meagher as an Associate Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the term ending May 1, 1965.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue Height Restrictions

The Secretary briefly commented on the public hearing held at the City Council on Wednesday, September 12, 1962. Transcripts of this hearing have been furnished each of the Commissioners. Assistant Corporation Counsel, William A. McDermott, informed the Commission that we are confronted with private as well as public restrictions in relation to the removal of the height restriction. It was brought out during the meeting today that, at the hearing on September 12, two groups present at the meeting stated they would like more time, possibly two or three weeks, to submit further reports regarding the change of height restrictions. It is now five weeks since the date of the hearing and no protest to change of restrictions has been filed.

Accordingly, the Commission, being of the opinion that sufficient time had elapsed, discussed further this most important matter. With the advice of William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, the following order was adopted:

October 18, 1962

"In Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, ORDERED:--That this Commission, having passed the order of notice in relation to the public improvement hereinafter described, and having caused a copy of said order to be published on August 25, and August 30, 1962, in the Boston Morning Globe, Boston Morning Herald, Boston Morning Record, and the Christian Science Monitor, daily newspapers published in the City of Boston, and having given the public hearing, notice of which was given in said order, and being of the opinion that public convenience and public interest so require, does hereby order the discontinuance of the existing building line on each side of Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Beacon Street, established by vote of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Boston on August 3, 1896, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1893 and Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1896, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 2386, Page 11, for the purpose, among others, of eliminating the 70-foot height restriction resulting therefrom."

A copy of this order was forwarded to Mr. McDermott at the Law Department, attested to by the Executive Secretary. A proper paper will be drawn by the Law Department which will require the signatures of all the Commissioners as well as that of His Honor the Mayor. After this has been completed, the order will be properly recorded in the Registry of Deeds.

* * *

10/18/62

Girls' High School, West Newton Street

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission that the new type of Field House being constructed at this location should be completed in two or three weeks. The program on this playground should be in full operation upon the completion of the Field House. It is a pilot program--the first of its kind in Boston--and the salaries of the workers are being paid through a special appropriation from the United Community Fund.

* * *

Deaconess Hospital

The Secretary read to the Commission a communication dated October 2, 196[illegible] and addressed to Arthur G. Coffey, Corporation Counsel of the City of Boston, from Mr. Alfred Gardner, the legal representative of the Deaconess Hospital. The letter referred to the zoning variance which will allow the construction o[illegible] the high-rise office building on the property at the corner of Riverway and Brookline Avenue. The required zoning variance has been granted and all of the Building Department and Parks and Recreation Department permits and approvals have been obtained. Commitments for a temporary construction loan have been received by the hospital trustees from the National Shawmut Bank of Boston and the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company of Boston. In the course of the work on the mortgage and construction loan papers, counsel for the bank and for the insurance company has raised a question concerning the application of the 70-foot restriction and the garage prohibition contained in Section 10 of Chapter 19 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Boston, as amended.

There is a difference of opinion concerning this ordinance, as brought out by Mr. McDermott at the meeting, but it would not serve any purpose to go into a long drawn-out discussion as to the restriction rights. Accordingly, at the suggestion of Mr. McDermott, the following order was adopted:

October 18, 1962

"In Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, ORDERED:--To recommend to the City Council that the Park Frontage Law be amended to permit the construction of the proposed medical office building of the New England Deaconess Hospital."

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn 10/18/62

The Secretary read to the Commission a letter addressed to the High Voltag[illegible] Engineering Corporation of Burlington, Massachusetts, from the Town of Burlington, denying the petition of the Parks and Recreation Department to remove approximately 7,300 cubic yards of loam from a plot of land located on South Bedford Street, Burlington, and sold by the Parks and Recreation Department to the High Voltage Engineering Corporation.

Mr. McDermott expressed the opinion that it would be useless for the Commission to pursue this matter any further.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that bids were opened today, October 18, for the demolition of the Buddies Club on Boston Common and the low bidder was the Central Building Wrecking Company, 141 Boston Street, Everett, [illegible] $6,900.00.

The Army and Navy Service officials, as well as the trustees of the Buddie[illegible] Club, anticipate opening a new location on Boylston Street, near Tremont Street on January 1, 1963. Accordingly, it was recommended at the meeting today to t[illegible]k with the contractor and to ascertain if he would be willing to forego demolitio[illegible] of the Buddies Club until January 1, 1963, and to do the work at that time, at the price bid today. Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne are to talk [illegible]th the contractor.

* * *

10/18/62

Chestnut Hill Avenue, Wallingford Road, Brighton

This particular parcel of property has been before the Commission for a long period of time. The Commission is quite familiar with the various interests in the land.

Present at today's meeting were Carleton Hunneman and Mr. Brown of the Hunneman Real Estate Company, one of the groups interested in acquiring this property, Mr. Morgan of the Boston Edison Company, and Messrs. Liston, Millerick, Cohen, and Shillue of the Boston Housing Authority. The Housing Authority, under eminent domain, are to take land now owned by the Boston Edison Company in the immediate area (not city land) as part of a larger area required for housing for the elderly. This would leave the Edison Company without a site for a power station in the Brighton district. Mr. Morgan presented a plan indicating that the requirements of the company would be an area approximately 100 x 150 feet which they hoped might be taken from the land controlled by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Hunneman, speaking for his company and in general for real estate interests, stated that if the Edison Company were sold this parcel of land, it would not interfere with any plans regarding the development of garden type housing on the remainder of the playground area. Although no official vote was taken by the Commissioners, they were favorably disposed to allowing the Edison Company to acquire this land, and Mr. McDermott is to follow the matter further. The Housing Authority presented plans for construction of a housing project for the elderly and the Housing Architect, Mr. Cohen, advised the Park Commissioners of the planned development. Further action will be taken at a future meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Hunneman stated that Senior Living, Inc., whom he represented, would construct two to three story garden type housing. For this land they submitted a bid of $20,000.00. Mr. Hunneman did state that they would be prepared to pay the assessed valuation if this was the final decision. The assessed valuation, according to Mr. Hunneman, is in the neighborhood of $90,000.00, but because Senior Living, Inc. is a charitable corporation, they would like to obtain the land at a lower figure.

Mr. McDermott informed the Commissioners that they would be required to declare the land as no longer needed for public purposes, and a plan indicating changes for the Edison Company and the Boston Housing Authority will be required from the Public Works Department, James W. Haley, Commissioner. Prior to the preparation of this plan, Mr. McDermott is to receive from the Edison Company a plan indicating the exact area required by them.

It was unanimously voted by the Parks and Recreation Commission to request the Corporation Counsel to have an appraisal made of the property.

* * *

Franklin Field Swimming Pool and Skating Rink

By a unanimous vote of the Commission, it was voted to grant temporary control to the Metropolitan District Commission of the area set forth in Chapter 785 of the Acts of 1962 providing for the construction and maintenance by the Metropolitan District Commission of a swimming pool and an artificial ice skating rink on Franklin Field in the City of Boston. This property is currently owned and maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. It was further voted by the Commission to recommend to the Mayor and the City Council that this land be conveyed by the City of Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission in accordance with boundary lines indicated in Chapter 785 of the Acts of 1962.

* * *

Holyoke Street, West End

The Secretary was instructed to inform the party interested in this land that it was not for sale.

* * *

10/18/62

Mattapan Project--Boston Redevelopment Authority

The Chief Engineer reported to the Commission that his staff has worked in conjunction with the engineers of the Boston Redevelopment Authority in planning the park areas to be located within the Mattapan Development Project. These areas will come under the care of the Parks and Recreation Department when the development is completed.

Commissioner Snowden informed the Commission that there will be some five or six similar areas developed within the Roxbury area under the Boston Redevelopment Authority development program which, when completed, would become part of the park system. This occasioned Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne to comment that we would be required to greatly supplement our staff in order to properly maintain these additional areas.

* * *

George F. Parkman Trust Fund

The Secretary informed the Commission that the officials of the Parks and Recreation Department are committed to the members of the City Council that any income derived from the George F. Parkman Trust Fund in 1963 will be spent on improvements in the department in conformance with the terms of the Parkman will, rather than on maintenance salaries.

* * *

New City Hall

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest developments regarding the new Boston City Hall, particularly as they relate to space within the Hall for the various departments. The Parks and Recreation Department has had meetings with a representative of Becker and Becker of New York, who has been awarded a contract by the City of Boston for the development of plans for location of departments in the new structure.

* * *

Carter Playground, South End

This matter has been before the Commission on various occasions during the past two years. It is now some months since the previous discussion. Mr. Fred W. Roche, Attorney representing the abutters of the property to the playground, who are anxious to acquire a small section of the playground, was present at this meeting. As a result of Mr. Roche's testimony, and in accordance with the appraisal submitted by the Law Department on the fifteenth day of December, 1961, the following unanimous vote was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission:

> "The Parks and Recreation Commission, at its meeting on October 18, 1962 unanimously voted that 2,836 square feet of land at Carter Playground, South End, Boston, is no longer needed for public purposes and it therefore recommends the sale of said 2,836 square feet, as shown on plan dated June 23, 1961, signed Joseph Selwyn, Civil Engineer, to Lloyd E. Bliss al for the sum of $3,250.00, subject to the following conditions:
>
> > The purchasers at their own expense shall, within two years from the date of delivery of the deed, relocate the retaining wall on the new property line, and construct thereon a chain link fence not less than eight feet in height, and shall also relocate the existing shelter approximately fifteen feet from the property line, in accordance with specifications and directions of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

* * *

10/18/62

The following alterations have been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer:

324 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

"Change of occupancy from seven to eight apartments. Convert third story apartment into two two-room apartments with private baths. Change front doors leading into both apartments into 1-3/4 solid birch doors. Provide connecting balcony in front apartment."

269 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

"Change occupancy from six apartments to lodging house. Cut two door openings (one in the first floor, the second in the basement) connecting building 269 with 267. Each opening will have two Class B type fire doors with automatic fire linkage."

123 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

"Modernize and remodel to convert a legally classified lodging house to an apartment house."

* * *

The following extensions and change of contracts have been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

Extensions

"Subsoiling and Concrete Liners at Mount Hope and Evergreen Cemeteries, Boston"
D. F. Frangioso and Company, 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan..to November 1, 1962

"Furnishing and Installing New Heating Plant at Cabot Street Bathhouse, Roxbury"
Sellars Oil Burner Service, Inc., 366 Salem Street, Medford..to November 15, 1962

"Trimming of Trees at the Public Garden, Boston Common and Commonwealth Avenue between Arlington and Kenmore Streets, in Boston, Mass."
D. Cicconi, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton.....to November 15, 1962

Change Order #1

"Completing the Construction of a Shelter Building at West Newton Street Play Area, South End, Boston, Massachusetts"
Aliberti Bros., Inc., 411 Salem Street, Wakefield

| | |
|---|---|
| Original Contract..... | $29,918.00 |
| Amendment..... | 680.00 |
| Change Order #1..... | 301.00 |
| Total Amount of Contract to Date... | $30,899.00 |

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Arthur L. Keefe
Secretary

* * * * * * *

November 14, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Carter Playground, South End

In accordance with the vote of the Commission on October 18, His Honor the Mayor has presented to the City Council the following communication and order authorizing the sale of a portion of the playground containing 2,836 square feet to the owners of the commercial property abutting the project:

November 5, 1962

To the City Council

Gentlemen:

I submit herewith an order authorizing the sale of approximately 2,836 square feet of land at Camden Street, Boston, being a portion of the Carter Playground. The proposed purchasers are the owners of a commercial establishment abutting the rear of the playground and are desirous of providing better access to their building. The Parks and Recreation Commission has voted that the land is not required for playground purposes and recommends the sale for the sum of $3,250.00 provided the purchasers relocate the existing wall between the properties and construct a chain link fence thereon. A copy of the vote is attached hereto.

In view of the foregoing, I recommend the adoption of the accompanying order to your Honorable Body.

Respectfully,

Mayor

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The City of Boston is the owner in fee of approximately two thousand eight hundred and thirty-six (2,836) square feet of land, being a portion of the Carter Playground, Camden Street, Boston; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Commission has determined that said two thousand eight hundred and thirty-six (2,836) square feet of land are no longer required for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lloyd E. Bliss et al, the owners of land and buildings abutting said City of Boston land, desire to purchase said strip of land for the purpose of providing a better means of access to its properties; now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED, That the Mayor of the City of Boston be, and he hereby is, authorized to sell at private sale to Lloyd E. Bliss, Maynard M. Bliss, Robert R. Bliss and Eva Kane Weiss for not less than three thousand two hundred and fifty ($3,250) dollars and to deliver an instrument in writing conveying to the purchasers all the City of Boston's right, title and interest in and to two thousand eight hundred and thirty-six (2,836) square feet of land shown on a plan by Joseph Selwin, Civil Engineer, dated June 23, 1961; and it is further

ORDERED, That any instrument conveying the above-described parcel of land shall contain a provision that the purchasers, at their own expense, shall

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within two (2) years from the date of the delivery of such instrument relocate the retaining wall on the new property line, and construct thereon a chain link fence not less than eight (8) feet in height, and shall also relocate existing shelter approximately fifteen (15) feet from the property line in accordance with specifications and directions of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner; and for breach of the foregoing provisions, the City of Boston shall have the right to enter and possess the premises as of its former estate. Such instrument shall also contain a provision that the purchaser will accept delivery of the deed within six (6) months of the effective date of this order.

A certificate by the Mayor of the City of Boston recorded with the Suffolk Registry of Deeds that the above conditions have been complied with shall be conclusive evidence of the satisfaction of the same.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

The Secretary read to the Commission communications addressed to the Honorable John F. Collins, Mayor of Boston, and Robert P. Kelsey, Chairman of the United Service Organizations, informing them that the Commission will not start the demolition of the Buddies Club building until January 1, 1963. Under date November 13, 1962, the Secretary reported that a communication had been received from Mr. Kelsey acknowledging the receipt of the letter stating that the demolition would start January 1, 1963.

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that all arrangements have been made with the contractor and that a change order, granting an extension for the completion of the demolition, will be prepared and submitted to the Law Department at the proper time.

* * *

Franklin Field, Dorchester, Skating Rink and Swimming Pool

The Secretary reported to the Commission that Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, has informed the Commissioner that His Honor the Mayor has submitted to the City Council an order transferring the care, custody, and control of a certain area in Franklin Field, in accordance with Chapter 785, for construction of a skating rink and swimming pool to the Metropolitan District Commission. We will await the Council's approval.

* * *

Deaconess Hospital

The Commissioners were informed that the order adopted at the meeting on October 18 recommending to the City Council that the Park Frontage Law be amended to permit the construction of the proposed medical office building at the New England Deaconess Hospital, Riverway, has been approved by the City Council and the Mayor as follows:

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston, as follows:

Section 1. Section 10 of Chapter 19 of the Revised Ordinances of 1961, as amended by Chapter 9 of the Ordinances of 1961, is hereby further amended by striking out the period at the end of said section and inserting in place thereof a semicolon and adding thereto the following: "provided further however, that the prohibition of the use of any of said buildings and structures for a public garage and the restriction on the extreme height of said buildings or structures to 70 feet shall not apply to the lot of land bounded by the Riverway, Francis Street and Brookline Avenue."

In City Council October 29, 1962. Passed.

Approved by the Mayor October 31, 1962.

Attest:

(s) J. M. Dunlea

Assistant City Clerk.

* * *

11/14/62

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel representing Mr. William A. McDermott of the Law Department, informed the Commissioners that, since the last meeting, the Boston Edison Company has submitted a plan indicating the area of the above land that will be required by this company for a power plant station. Mr. Moore reported further that a copy of this plan has been forwarded to Mr. James W. Haley, Commissioner of the Public Works Department, requesting that a new plan be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Department indicating the area now available for sale.

Mr. Moore further reported that the Law Department has engaged Mr. Daniel M. Driscoll to make an appraisal of the land which could be used as a basis for the sale of the property.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue--Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton

The Secretary acquainted the Commission of the fact that Document #79096 of the Superior Court, in which ten taxpayers objected to the sale of the land referred to above, has been further referred to the Supreme Court. Judge Gourdin of the Superior Court issued the final decree reading as follows:

FINAL DECREE

This cause came on to be further heard and was argued by Counsel and thereupon, upon consideration thereof, it is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that:

That the respondents are permanently enjoined from selling or conveying a certain parcel of land consisting of approximately sixty-four thousand square feet located at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue in the Brighton District of the City of Boston, specifically, to the west of Chestnut Hill Avenue, and to the south of South Street and to the north of Commonwealth Avenue, except as part of a plan to adjust the park area of which it is a part and without first arranging for the acquisition by the City of Boston, by virtue of Chapter 274 of the Acts of 1899, of other land to be added to the said park area and to be purchased with the proceeds of such sale.

By the Court, (VOKE, J. after order
& rulings by GOURDIN, J.)

LEO A. REED, Asst. Clerk

Entered: July 6, 1962

APPEAL FROM FINAL DECREE

Now comes the respondents in the above-entitled cause and appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court from the Final Decree entered in said cause.

By their Attorney,
WILLIAM A. McDERMOTT
Assistant Corporation Counsel

Filed July 25, 1962

Mr. Moore reported further that the Law Department, through Mr. McDermott, has appealed this matter to the Supreme Court. We will be required to await action from this Court.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue Height Restrictions

Mr. McDermott arrived before adjournment of the meeting and he reported to the Commission that His Honor the Mayor, under date of November 14, approved the order signed by the Commissioners regarding the removal of the height restriction on Commonwealth Avenue. Upon motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded

11/14/62

by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to record the following order with the Registry of Deeds:

October 18, 1962

In Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, ORDERED:--That this Commission, having passed the order of notice relating to the public improvement hereinafter described, and having caused a copy of said order to be published on August 25, and August 30, 1962, in the Boston Morning Globe, Boston Morning Herald, Boston Morning Record, and the Christian Science Monitor, daily newspapers published in the City of Boston, and having given the public hearing, notice of which was given in said order, and being of the opinion that public convenience and public interest so require, does hereby order the discontinuance of the existing building line on each side of Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Beacon Street, established by vote of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Boston on August 3, 1896, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1893 and Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1896, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 2386, Page 11, for the purpose, among others, of eliminating the 70-foot height restriction resulting therefrom.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
By /s/ Martin F. Walsh
Chairman
/s/ Harry J. Blake

/s/ Daniel G. O'Connor

/s/ O. Phillip Snowden

Approved:

/s/ John F. Collins
Mayor
11/14/62

* * *

Snow Dumping--Boston Public Works Department Permit

The Secretary informed the Commission of the permit granted to the Public Works Department for the dumping ofsnow on certain playgrounds within the City of Boston, as follows:

District 3--Dorchester
The former Alsen Street Playground
District 4--Brighton
The former playground on Chestnut Hill Avenue and adjacent to Fire Station
District 7--Dorchester
Part of Franklin Field on Westview Street and part of Roberts Playground on Dunbar Street
District 10A--Roxbury
Fenway area in back of Fire Signal Building
District 10B--Roxbury
Madison Park on Westminster and Sterling Streets

The Commissioner informed the other members of the Commission that he disapproved the dumping of snow on Smith Playground on Western Avenue, Brighton. A suits, actions, or claims arising from the use of the land are the responsibilit of the Public Works Department. That department has agreed to restore the land its original condition at the end of the winter season.

* * *

11/14/62

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

The Commissioners discussed at length the placing of aluminum collars with inscriptions on each flag pole in the Parkman Plaza, Boston Common. Mr. Kerr of the Law Department was present and in detail brought before the Commission the suggested inscriptions furnished by Mr. H. D. Hodgkinson, Chairman of the Board of the Filene Company. These particular inscriptions for the flag poles had been discussed on a previous occasion by Mr. Hodgkinson with His Honor the Mayor.

Mr. Kerr informed the Commissioners that he had been assigned by His Honor the Mayor to follow up on this matter, and accordingly, the Commission will await word from Mr. Kerr before proceeding further.

* * *

New Trees, Boston Public Garden

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the terms of the will of the late Grace S. Batchelder, dated March 10, 1961, in which she provided for a legacy of $500.00 to her son, John L. Batchelder, Jr., in which he would use the same for the purpose of providing a suitable memorial to Mrs. Batchelder in the Boston Public Garden, as evidenced by the planting of trees, to be decided upon by the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Boston, the trustees of the Arnold Arboretum, and the executors of her will.

The Secretary informed the Commission that the fund will probably reach $1,000.00 or a little in excess, received from additional contributions of friends of Mrs. Batchelder.

Mr. Kerr talked with the members of the Commission regarding the acceptance by the Commission of this gift, and it was decided that the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation would discuss this matter further with the Superintendent of Horticulture of this department and Dr. Richard A. Howard of the Arnold Arboretum. The matter will be reported on at a later meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Boston Redevelopment Authority--Washington Park

Mr. Roy Rothermel and Mr. William Pear, both Capital Budgeting Officers of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, were present at the meeting and they discussed with the Commission the planned development of Washington Park.

Commissioner Snowden is the local director of this project which will be the first of a number of similar developments in the City of Boston. A long discussion followed in which all the members of the Commission, Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Director of Recreation Patrick J. Ryan took part. The Parks and Recreation Department authorities learned from the Boston Redevelopment Authority officials what was planned in the way of playgrounds, parks, tot-lots, as indicated in the overall plan, and these officers in turn learned from the Parks and Recreation Department officials what they deemed proper for the area.

As a result of the meeting, it was unanimously voted, on a motion by Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, to prepare a letter to Edward J. Logue, Development Administrator in Boston, setting forth the areas to be developed and the amount of money to be allotted as the city's contribution, these appropriations being contingent upon receiving the approval of the City Council and His Honor the Mayor. This letter to Mr. Logue is actually a "Letter of Intent" indicating that the Parks and Recreation Department desires to cooperate with the Boston Redevelopment Authority officials in the plans for Washington Park development.

* * *

Ritz-Carlton Hotel Parking Area

The request of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel to establish a parking area for guests at the corner of Arlington Street and Commonwealth Avenue was disapproved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

* * *

11/14/62

The following contracts and extension have been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

Contracts

"Demolition of Buildings at Boston Common, Boston, Mass."

Central Building Wrecking Company, 141 Boston Street, Everett...$6,900.00

"Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways in Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury, Mass."

Old Colony Construction Company of Quincy, Vernon Street, Quincy,.$24,116.

Extension

"Furnishing and Installing New Heating Plant at North Bennet Street Bath House, Boston, Mass."

J. A.Marino Automatic Heating Company, 18 Union Park Street, Boston.....

to December 15, 1962

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

December 19, 1962

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, and O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

The Secretary reported that the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is taking 8,170 square feet of land, in accordance with an official notice received at the Parks and Recreation Department on November 28, 1962. This area was taken as a state highway by the Public Works Department on September 11, 1962, in accordance with Chapter 81 of the General Laws. Our rights come under Chapter 79 of the General Laws and also under Chapter 797 of the Acts of 1962.

This section of the Ryan Playground is actually in the area that the Schrafft Company desired to purchase, but as far as can be ascertained the Schrafft Company is no longer interested in this area.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Lawrence J. Moore reported that the State Department of Public Works has the right to make an eminent domain taking of this property, but the city has the right to file a claim for proper damages. The Edison Company is also inquiring for an additional easement through this property for which they will reimburse the city for an agreed sum.

The Commission voted to refer this matter to the Law Department.

* * *

Girls' High School, West Newton Street

On Saturday, December 1, this playground was officially dedicated by His Honor, Mayor John F. Collins, in memory of Thomas F. O'Day, former editor of the City Record.

Commissioner Walsh stated that the major maintenance of the playground is to be under the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a pilot area with the salaries of the staff being subsidized by private agencies. The total cost of the playground including the demolition of the old Girls' High School, construction of the shelter, and the development of the area was $123,187.00.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel, assured the Commission that it has the legal right to remove all buildings in this area on Boston Common. A question had arisen as to whether the Record American, by their release of the Buddies Club to the Parks and Recreation Department, has included other sections of these buildings which might have been erected at a later date. The demolition is due to start on January 1, 1963.

* * *

Flagpoles, Parkman Plaza, Boston Common

The Secretary reported that Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant of the Law Department, has submitted a report to His Honor the Mayor regarding the placing of aluminum collars on the flagpoles with inscriptions as suggested by Mr. H. D. Hodgkinson of the William Filene Company. As he has not received a reply from Mayor Collins, no action could be taken by the Commission at this time.

Mr. Kerr was not present at today's meeting because of an assignment in court.

* * *

12/19/62

Arts Festival

The Secretary distributed to the members of the Commission a communication from Nelson W. Aldrich, Chairman of the Arts Festival Committee, setting forth the conditions under which the Arts Festival would be moved from the Public Garden to the Boston Common. Mr. Kerr of the Law Department, although not present at the meeting, did report that the request set forth by Mr. Aldrich in his communication of December 10, 1962, is not in proper form and it will require redrafting before it can be considered as a proper expenditure of the Parkman Trust Fund.

The Commissioners discussed at length this latest plan concerning the location of the Arts Festival, and they are of the firm opinion that the Arts Festival should be moved from the Public Garden to Boston Common in 1963. This they hope can be accomplished by Commissioner Walsh presenting a letter to His Honor the Mayor setting forth the previous promises of the Arts Festival Commit e to move the Festival. The Commissioners are of the unanimous opinion that ther should be definite and affirmative action taken to transfer the Arts Festival.

* * *

Parkman Fund

The Secretary read the City Council order filed by Councillor Foley. It would appear that this order would endeavor to establish the Arts Festival in the Public Garden on a permanent basis. It was the consensus of the Commission that no consideration be given this order until an opinion had been received fr the Mayor.

* * *

Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park

Mr. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel, stated that he was not in a posi o to advise the Commission any further on this matter and it was laid on the tabl pending a report from Mr. McDermott at a later meeting. An appraisal of this land was made on December 15, 1961, and it has been pending in the Law Departme since that time.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Secretary reported that once again press notices have appeared indicat g that the Town of Burlington has designs on the Cummings property in Woburn. Mr McDermott was not present at the meeting today, but he will advise the Commissi at a later date as to whether Burlington would have any rights under the Mary P C Cummings Will.

* * *

Riverway, Leverett Pond, Muddy River

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne acquainted the Board with the problems resulting from the flooding and stagnation conditions of the Muddy Riv and Leverett Pond areas in Boston and Brookline which have been prevalent for a long time. The recent expenditure of some $300,000.00 to $400,000.00 by the Me o politan Transit Authority at Kenmore Square was caused by this condition.

A meeting with the Brookline, Boston, and Metropolitan District Commission officials presided over by Mayor Collins has finally started action for the ex- penditure of $500,000.00 to stop flooding and stagnation in this area. The Met politan District Commission has the authority from the legislature to proceed o this project, but it has been holding back because of the contemplated change i the traffic pattern around Jamaica Pond. It appears that the traffic change ha been settled, and it is hoped that action may be started immediately to correct this dangerous condition.

* * *

12/9/62

Charlestown. Boston Redevelopment Authority

The Secretary reported that the Boston Redevelopment Authority officials have not completed their final plans for Charlestown renewal and they may not be finished for some weeks. Accordingly, a representative did not come to the meeting today. This matter will be taken up at a future date.

The Parks and Recreation Department will be vitally involved in this development which will follow along the pattern of the Washington Park development which was discussed at the last meeting.

* * *

The following alteration has been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of Chief Engineer Byrne:

165 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"Make new bathroom and modernize kitchen on 1st floor.
Divide third floor into two apartments.
Install two kitchens and two bathrooms in basement.
Install an automatic sprinkler system."

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Secretary

* * * * * * *

JANUARY 23, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, and O. Phillip Snowden. Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor was absent because of illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

The Board considered the request of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for setting aside a portion of Ryan Playground, Charlestown, for required facilities during the proposed period of the construction of the Alford Street Bridge.

The Commissioner informed the Board that approval had been granted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, through Mr. E. J. McCarthy, to enclose an area on Ryan Playground of approximately 3,200 square feet for temporary use for three field houses and a sanitary building.

The permit was issued with the understanding that, upon completion of the bridge and approach work, the buildings and fences will be removed and the playground will be restored to its original condition.

The Board unanimously voted to approve the action of the Commissioner.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that demolition work was started on January 2 and that over the New Year's weekend the radiators and pipes became frozen. The Central Building Wrecking Company, which has been awarded the contract for the demolition of these buildings, has filed suit with the city in the amount of $3,414.80 covering the cost of replacement of pipes and radiators which were frozen and of no further use. The officials of the company have submitted a report with their claim stating that their low bid was premised mainly on the radiators and pipes being available.

The Secretary reported that Mr. P. J. O'Connell, Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston, is representing the city in this claim and he is endeavoring to ascertain whether the insurance coverage of the United Service Organizations and Buddies Club officials is sufficient to allow the city to file suit for collection under the insurance policies.

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel, who was present at the meeting, reported that as of the present time Mr. O'Connell is of the opinion that the city is liable.

At the suggestion of Commissioner Meagher, the Secretary is to write Dwight Rudd & Company relative to the broad form of the policy and whether or not it included piping, and to request that a copy of the daily report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Department.

* * *

Arts Festival, Boston Common

Mr. William Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant, was present at the meeting, and he spoke at length regarding the possibility of the Arts Festival being located on Boston Common in 1963. Mr. Kerr reported that the Executive Committee of the Arts Festival will meet in a few days and he expects to have a statement from them as to their new plans and design. The original plans were set up to the exclusive advantage of the Arts Festival, but the plans as developed must serve other groups as the contemplated improvements must be for the public as a whole and not for an individual.

1/23/63

Mr. Kerr is awaiting new plans covering this development and he stated that the work, if done in 1963, should be done in three or four steps and he expresse doubt as to the ability of the Arts Festival to be permanently located on the Boston Common this year. He further stated that it would be possibly May or Ju before definite plans and drawings are submitted. Mr. Kerr is continuing on his research to ascertain if all features that are recommended could be included und the Parkman Will expenditures.

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the resolution passed by the City Council on Monday, January 21, asking that the Parks and Recreation Department give consideration to allocating a section on the Public Garden for permanent improvements for the Arts Festival.

Commissioner Walsh indicated that it is the apparent wish of His Honor the Mayor and those connected with the Mayor's office that the Arts Festival should remain at its present location for 1963. Commissioner Walsh is to further dis this matter with His Honor the Mayor.

* * *

Flag Poles, Parkman Plaza, Boston Common

The Commission was presented with a communication received today from Mr. H. D. Hodgkinson, Chairman of the Board of the Filene Company, in relation to th suggested bronze markers for the flag poles, Lafayette Mall, Boston Common. Thi matter has been considered at previous meetings of the Commission and the Commis sion was awaiting a final word as to the attitude of the Mayor. Mr. Kerr state that he had been unable to talk with the Mayor because of previous commitments.

The Commissioners are of the opinion that these bronze markers are not a necessary improvement to the existing flag poles at Parkman Plaza and that, as presently erected, the flag poles constitute a more pleasing and simple arrangement. The Commissioners also are of the opinion that the expense of doing this work could be more adequately expended in some other location on the Common.

Commissioner Walsh has agreed to write to Mr. Hodgkinson as to the opinion of the Commission and, if possible, to discuss this matter with the Mayor to ascertain his attitude.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

Mr. Moore of the Law Department reported that there was no further action required on this property at this time. We are awaiting final plans of the ava able area to be sold. This plan is to be furnished by Mr. James W. Haley, Comm sioner of the Public Works Department.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

Mr. Moore of the Law Department reporting for Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, informed the Commission that the latest notice, dated January , from the Metropolitan District Commission, through the Secretary, Richard I. Fu completes final action for the deeding of Castle Island from the City of Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Accordingly, this historic site is no longer part of the park system of the City of Boston.

* * *

1/23/63

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

Commissioner Walsh reported to the Board of a meeting held at the Parks and Recreation Department office with three members of the National Park Service on January 16. On the same day he accompanied the group to Dorchester Heights for an on-site inspection of the grounds and the interior and exterior of the monument.

The Commissioner also informed the Board that he had addressed a letter to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the National House, asking that he consider introducing a bill into the National House whereby the Federal Government would assume the care and control of this National Historic Site in fact, as well as in name.

Subsequently, a report was forwarded to the Philadelphia office of the National Park Service, at their request, informing them of the approximate annual maintenance expense assumed by the city. We are awaiting further action from the National Park Service.

* * *

O'Day Playground, South End

The Secretary read to the Board the communication of F. Gregg Bemis, Chairman of the Mayor's Recreation Advisory Committee, informing Commissioner Walsh that the pilot program on the O'Day Playground, South End, would terminate on October 31, 1963, and that on November 1, 1963, the city would be expected to assume the maintenance and programming on this playground.

A communication has been sent to Mr. Bemis acknowledging his communication and stating that the city would be ready to take over the responsibility.

* * *

Removal of Kiosks on Boston Common by the Metropolitan Transit Authority

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. reported that the Metropolitan Transit Authority is receiving bids on Thursday, January 24, 1963, for the removal of two kiosks on the Lafayette Mall side of Boston Common.

Although the Commission expressed pleasure at the removal of the kiosks, they would be much happier if the one adjacent to the Parkman Plaza were removed. Commissioner Walsh and Mr. Byrne are to follow up on this matter with Mr. Myott, Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

* * *

Bills Filed by the Mayor--1963 Legislature

The Secretary briefly informed the members of the Board of some of the bills filed by Mayor John F. Collins in the 1963 Legislature. A copy of the bills that particularly related to the Parks and Recreation Department was given to the Commissioners.

* * *

The following extension of a contract has been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

"Demolition of Buildings at Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts."
Central Building Wrecking Company, 141 Boston Street, Everett, to March 1, 1963.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Arthur D. Teeple
Secretary

* * * * * * *

FEBRUARY 8, 1963

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at 10:10 a.m. in the office of the Mayor at the Boston City Hall in connection with the contemplated moving of the Boston Arts Festival from the Public Garden to the Boston Common.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh, Parks and Recreation Department
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Frederick A. Meagher
Associate Commissioner Daniel C. O'Connor was absent because of illness.
Associate Commissioner O. Phillip Snowden was absent because of a previous office assignment.
Henry A. Scagnoli, Deputy Mayor, acting in place of Mayor John F. Collins
Nelson W. Aldrich, Chairman of the Art Commission
Albert Hochberg and Dr. Richardson, Trustees of the Arts Festival
James Lawrence, prominent Boston architect
Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer, Parks and Recreation
John H. O'Neill, Jr., Administrative Assistant, Mayor's office
Arthur J. O'Keefe, Administrative Assistant, Parks and Recreation

A discussion was held concerning the location of the Arts Festival in 1963, and it was generally agreed that the Arts Festival would be unable to move to the Boston Common this year and that it will be held in the Public Garden, as heretofore. The general discussion evolved around how soon plans could be prepared and the actual work started so that the contemplated improvement could be completed in time for the Arts Festival in June of 1964.

The representatives of the Arts Festival were of the opinion that there should be a competition among landscape architects for the design of this improvement, open to experts in this field in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and possibly in the New England area.

Mr. Scagnoli stated that if we were to adopt this procedure, take time to advertise the competition, and to await the selection of a winner, much valuable time would be lost. It would be more in the order of good business and proper procedure if we were to select one landscape architect to present a definite plan promptly and then to allow the Parks and Recreation Department engineers sufficient time to prepare bids and advertise for the first phase of the contract.

It was brought out at the meeting that there are two specific details that must be decided in connection with this improvement: (1) that the plans must be so drawn that when the improvements are completed, they will be not only for the Arts Festival, but also for any other group, organization, or convention meeting. (2) this money is to be obtained from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund and the money must be expended for the citizens as a whole and not for any particular individual or organization.

This contemplated improvement was discussed in detail by all those present, and it was determined that one landscape architect, agreed upon by all concerned, would be selected to submit plans. It was indicated by the Trustees of the Arts Festival that this might be accomplished within a period of ten days to two weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Arthur J. O'Keefe
Secretary

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MARCH 5, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Associate Commissioners O. Phillip Snowden and Frederick A. Meagher. Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Daniel G. O'Connor were absent because of illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Muddy River, Boston--Brookline, Metropolitan District Commission

Since the last meeting of the Commission, Park Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., have been present at meetings where the contemplated improvements were discussed. The Secretary read the latest notice concerning these improvements, and also Chapter 604, Sections 1 and 3, of the Acts of 1959.

The Commission adopted the following vote, on a motion made by Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Meagher:

> "That the Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby grant permission to the Metropolitan District Commission to enter upon land in the Muddy River and Leverett Pond area of Boston under the care, custody, and control of the Parks and Recreation Department to perform improvements and protective work to the channel and adjacent land of the Muddy River for certain improvements at Leverett's, Ward's, and Jamaica Ponds in the City of Boston, as provided under Chapter 604 of the Acts of 1959."

A copy of this vote was forwarded to the Metropolitan District Commission so that it might proceed to make the improvements at once.

* * *

Smith Playground, Brighton, Metropolitan District Commission

Attorney William D. Quigley, attorney for the Metropolitan District Commission, was present at the meeting to offer to the City of Boston, through the Parks and Recreation Commission, the sum of $19,000.00 for the right of a permanent easement of approximately 30,000 square feet, twenty-five feet wide, for a main water line to run nine feet below the surface of the playground.

It was unanimously voted to accept the offer of the Metropolitan District Commission of $19,000.00 for the permanent easement. The area is to be rolled and seeded after the work has been completed.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

The Secretary reported that, through an official communication addressed to the Metropolitan District Commission, the Parks and Recreation Department has ceased to maintain Castle Island. The official recording on December 10, 1962, at 1:43 p.m. is found in Suffolk Registry of Deeds Book 7703, Page 586, and Book 7705, Page 1.

The Parks and Recreation Department has made official request to the Metropolitan District Commission to allow this department to conduct its retarded children's program on the usual area of Castle Island during the summer months.

* * *

Fens Area, Metropolitan District Commission

The Secretary reported that a permit has been granted to the Metropolitan District Commission to make borings in connection with the construction of the Charlesgate interchange between Storrow Drive and Gaston Circle with the approval of the Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner and Chief Engineer.

* * *

3/5/63

Legislative Bills--Acquisition of Park Lands--Metropolitan District Commiss

Secretary acquainted the Commission concerning the current list of bills filed in the Legislature regarding the acquisition of Boston lands by the Metropolitan District Commission. This referred to the transfer of eight Boston playgrounds to the Metropolitan District Commission. Representatives of the district file these bills annually, but they seldom, if ever, are given any particular attention, and the Legislature ordinarily gives "leave to withdraw."

* * *

Ryan Playground, Charlestown, Easement

The Boston Edison Company has requested a twenty-foot easement through the Ryan Playground for underground transmission lines. This request has been referred to the Law Department. Mr. McDermott reported that Mr. Kerr is working out the arrangements with the Edison Company and he will report on the progress at a subsequent meeting.

* * *

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, Flagpole Area

The Secretary read the reply from Mr. H. D. Hodgkinson in answer to the letter sent to him under date of January 28. Mr. Hodgkinson accepted the opinion of the Commissioners regarding the New England Plaza concept with some regret. His plan will be given further consideration if and when a new festival area is constructed on Boston Common.

* * *

Buddies Club, Boston Common

The United Service Organizations and Buddies Club has been practically demolished and Commissioner Walsh commented on the progress. The Secretary read the invitation from Mr. Robert P. Kelsey, Chairman of the United Service Organizations, inviting the Commissioners to attend the program at the Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, on March 19, at 1:00 p.m. when the new headquarters of the United Service Organizations at 104 Boylston Street, Boston, will be dedicated. The Commissioners are also invited to inspect the new center on the same day.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue, Wallingford Road, Brighton

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the latest request received from another interested party who desires to acquire this property.

Representatives of the Housing Authority and the Boston Edison Company were present at the meeting. Plans were presented indicating the area to be taken by the Housing Authority by eminent domain and the area required by the Edison Company. This company is to submit an offer for 19,000 square feet of this land to be set aside as a site for a new power station.

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, indicated that there is available approximately 406,000 square feet of land for sale which includes the area to be sold to the Edison Company. Mr. Daniel M. Driscoll, Appraiser retained by the City Law Department, has submitted an appraisal for the remaining land available for sale at $200,000.00.

* 12,000 SQ. FT. TAKEN BY EMINENT DOMAIN BY HOUSING AUTHORITY

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Secretary reported to the Commission concerning information received since the last meeting regarding the plans of the Town of Burlington to acquire some of this property, and he read the news releases concerning this matter.

3/5/63

Mr. McDermott stated that the land taken by the Federal Government several years ago, for which they paid, could be turned over to the Towns of Burlington and Woburn at no cost by the Federal Government, if they so desire. However, if they were to sell the land, then private individuals would be allowed to bid, or they could further turn the land back to the city; but there is little that we can do to prevent any action they might want to take.

* * *

Public Recreation--Boston Committee for Action for Community Development

The Secretary read to the Commission communications between Joseph S. Slavet, Chairman of the Development Committee, Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services, and the Parks and Recreation Department on the subject of setting aside of an indoor and outdoor recreation facility for a program under the direction of the City of Boston and the Boston Committee for Action for Community Development, a new group sponsored by the Ford Foundation.

Commissioner Snowden suggested that a representative of the group be invited to the next meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue Height Restrictions

The Secretary and Mr. McDermott reported on the hearing before the Superior Court of March 4. Two or three test cases are now before the Superior Court and Mr. McDermott is of the opinion that the Judge will refer them to the Supreme Court.

* * *

Budget Hearing before the City Council on February 26, 1963

The Executive Secretary, Arthur J. O'Keefe, reported that the 1963 budget of the Parks and Recreation Department is approximately $3,518,000.00. This has been submitted to the Council by the Mayor and represents approximately $11,000.00 less than the 1962 appropriation.

In the Cemetery Division, the appropriation submitted by the Mayor is $423,000.00 which is approximately $29,000 higher than last year. It is the intention of the Administration to put a number of temporary persons to work to do a cleanup job in the cemeteries in the spring and summer months.

The Cemetery Budget is in no way reflected in the tax rate.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival

The Secretary stated that there has been no further report from the committee since the meeting on February 8 in the Office of the Mayor.

* * *

Boston Common Garage Authority

Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. reported to the Commission on the meeting of February 27 at the office of the Garage Authority with Mr. Silverio, Chairman of the Authority. Mr. Silverio has agreed to do further work on the surface ground area over the garage. The work done last year was unsatisfactory. Mr. Byrne will follow up on the rehabilitation work.

* * *

3/5/63

The following ALTERATIONS have been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of Chief Engineer Byrne:

22 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"Install bathrooms on first and second floors. Add additional fire balconies, and emergency lights and alarm system to comply with all requirements of the Egress Division."

Change of occupancy from single dwelling to lodging house.

47 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"Build elevator shaft and penthouse on roof. Elevator supports as shown on plans."

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The following ALTERATION was disapproved:

366 Commonwealth Avenue--Corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary read the reply of Commissioner Walsh, prepared by Chief Engineer Byrne, regarding the reasons for the refusal to grant permission for the construction of entrance and exit stairs, as requested by the Building Department, which is summarized briefly, as follows:

(1) The ordinance relative to restrictions on park frontages in the City of Boston states therein, under Section 18, that "No building or structure or any part thereof hereafter erected or altered on land which abuts on and has entrance into and is within a distance of one hundred feet from the following parkways:.....Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to a line drawn parallel to and one hundred and thirty feet west of Charlesgate West,.....shall be used for a livery stable, or public garage, or for any mechanical, mercantile or manufacturing purposes."

(2)"The plans submitted for our approval distinctly note thereon, that the westerly side of the first floor of this building is being used for mercantile purposes. This is an illegal use, contrary to the above-noted ordinance."

(3)"It is our considered opinion that to give our approval for alteration of a building, where in the plans submitted, it is clearly shown that a part of the building is being used contrary to the above-noted ordinance, is in fact also asking our approval of the status quo of these stores which we cannot subscribe to according to the mandates of the ordinance."

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Arthur J. Keefe

Secretary

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APRIL 10, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden
Associate Commissioner Frederick A. Meagher was out of town.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Buddies Club, Boston Common

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. reported that the work on the demolition of the Buddies Club is progressing satisfactorily. All the buildings are down; the foundations have been removed; and loam will be delivered on April 10 and April 11. It is hoped that the whole area will be rolled and cleaned and the contract will be completed prior to April 19.

The Secretary reported that, in company with the Chief Engineer, he attended the opening of the new United Service Organizations Club at 80 Boylston Street, Boston, on March 19. They were the representatives of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The new site is excellent and the United Service Organizations will conduct a program which should be of great interest to the servicemen, but it will be sharply reduced from the activities on Boston Common.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue, Wallingford Road, Brighton

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, Assistant Corporation Counsel of the Law Department, reported that the Shell Oil Company is presently working out an agreement with the Edison Company as to the right-of-way entrance to this property, the Shell Oil Company being the immediate abutter.

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that the Edison Company has agreed to a new site for its power station thirty-five feet back from the Boston Fire Department station.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton

Mr. Lawrence J. Moore, reporting for Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel on land matters, stated that the Supreme Court on Monday, April 1, ruled that the Boston Park Commission cannot sell 64,000 square feet of land at Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton, for a high-rise apartment project. Justice Arthur E. Whittemore decreed that, under the 1899 statute, the Park Department may not sell any land unless and until other land not now owned by the state has been acquired and added to the park land. This decision upheld a ruling by Superior Court Judge Edward J. Voke, upon the petition of ten taxpayers.

Two other parcels of land in this same area were sold under previous administrations. The question was raised at this meeting of the Commission as to how this was possible. We were informed by the representatives of the Law Department that no one had protested the sales and accordingly, they were consummated.

The Commissioners were informed by the Law Department that the only way this land could be sold now for the construction of a high-rise apartment house is by a special act of the legislature. It is understood that the city and the petitioners will file such legislation.

* * *

4/10/63

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

It was voted, on motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, that the offer of the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of a sum of $12,300.00 for an easement right through the land be referred to the Law Department with the request that the Corporation Counsel arrange for an appraisal.

* * *

Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park

The Chief Engineer reported to the Commission regarding the correspondence between Commissioner Martin F. Walsh and Commissioner Robert F. Murphy of the Metropolitan District Commission concerning an easement of the Metropolitan District Commission which runs through Fairview Cemetery. The easement involved is Section 21 of the Neponset Valley Sewer, Hyde Park and Dedham. Approximately 2,600 feet of this easement is through cemetery land. The sewer has a concrete and brick lower section and an eight inch thick top section arch.

The Chief Engineer reported that fill in the nature of tree stumps and othe debris has been placed over this sewer and further that a number of indigent wel fare dead have been buried in the same location.

The most recent communication addressed by Commissioner Walsh to Commissior Murphy indicates that, upon knowledge of this information, orders were issued to immediately stop all interments within the area and that, because of this situation and the use that has been made of this area over the easement, an immediate conference is necessary.

It is expected that Commissioner Murphy will reply to Commissioner Walsh's latest letter of April 5 which was read to the Commission today. A report will be forthcoming at a subsequent meeting.

* * *

Bay State Boat Company, Freeport Street, Dorchester

At the request of Mr. Lawrence J. Moore of the Law Department, the Commission, upon motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, unanimously voted to certify the conditions set forth in a deed of land sold to the Bay State Boat Company by the Parks and Recreation Department some few years back.

> "It is hereby certified by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston that the conditions set forth in a deed of the City of Boston to Bay State Boat Co., Inc., recorded with Suffolk Registry of Deeds, Book 7417, Page 130, conveying a parcel of land at 290 Freeport Street, Dorchester District of the City of Boston, have been fully complied with."

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

BY /s/ Martin F. Walsh CHAIRMAN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, s.s. Boston, Mass. 1963

Then personally appeared before me Martin F. Walsh, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, and acknowledged the foregoing to be his free act and deed.

Before me, /s/ Lawrence J. Moore

_____ Notary Public

My commission expires January 28, 1968.

* * *

4/10/63

Moseley Street, Dorchester

Executed copies of the temporary transfer of 26-34 Moseley Street, Dorchester, to the Metropolitan District Commission, signed by all the Metropolitan District Commissioners and by Commissioner Martin F. Walsh on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission were presented to the Commission. There was no further action.

* * *

George Wright Golf Course, Hyde Park

In connection with certain sewer conditions existing in the Hyde Park district, it is necessary for the Public Works Department of the City of Boston to construct an easement across two fairways of the golf course. The whole project should be completed in a matter of two weeks.

Upon motion by Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously adopted to allow the easement upon the recommendation of Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr.

* * *

House Bill No. 3293

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the contents of House Bill No. 3292--an Act Relative to the Placing of Poison for the Purpose of Killing Certain Mammals and Birds. This bill, if approved, would allow employees of municipal, state and federal governments to place poison for the control of animals and birds in connection with public health which may lawfully be killed under federal and state laws.

The Commission will await the action of the legislature.

* * *

Community Schools, New Haven, Connecticut

The Secretary and the Chief Engineer reported to the Commission in detail on the community school program of New Haven, Connecticut, where a visit was made on April 3 with members of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the School Department, and the Committee for Action for Boston Community Development.

* * *

Award of a five-year lease to John F.Burke for the Franklin Park Refreshment Privilege

Upon request of Commissioner Walsh, Mayor John F. Collins has approved the awarding of a five-year lease for the Franklin Park refreshment privilege in the Refectory Building to John F. Burke, 22 Myrtle Street, Jamaica Plain, from December 1, 1962, to November 30, 1967, at the rate of $3,500.00 yearly. The Burke family has had this concession for over thirty-five years.

* * *

The following contracts have been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

"Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Massachusetts"

D. Cicconi, Inc., 21 Shannon Street, Brighton, Massachusetts.....$12,200.00

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"Reconstruction of Tennis Courts at Parks and Recreation Department Playgrounds in Boston, Massachusetts"

Old Colony Construction Company of Quincy, Vernon Street ,
Quincy, Massachusetts.....$31,366.00

---

"Architectural Services for the Preparation of Plans and Specifications for an Addition to the Club House at the Franklin Park Golf Course, Dorchester, Massachusetts"

Awarded without advertising to W. Chester Browne and Associates, Inc.
122 Arlington Street
Boston, Massachusetts.....$6,000.00

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Secretary

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MAY 14, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Arts Festival

The Secretary notified the Commission that a request had finally been received from the Arts Festival Committee for the use of the Public Garden for the 1963 Arts Festival. The actual dates of the Arts Festival are Thursday, June 20, through Sunday, July 14. Permission has been granted to the Committee to begin moving equipment into the Garden for the Festival on June 1, 1963, twenty days in advance of the opening of the Festival, and the removal of all equipment and materials is to be made no later than July 20, 1963, six days after the conclusion of the Festival.

The Arts Festival officials are to arrange for all insurance covering persons and property as the City of Boston will not be liable for accident to person or property.

The Arts Festival officials have been informed that the Committee must renew all the grassed areas, replace the sod, and repair any other damage that may have been caused as a result of the holding of the Arts Festival.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, talked with Mr. Arthur Morgan of the Edison Company from the Commission office and Mr. Morgan has agreed to meet with the Gulf Oil officials and to settle the matter concerning the use of the right-of-way entering this property.

No further action can be taken towards the sale of the land to the Edison Company until it has been determined that all parties are satisfied.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Saint Thomas More Road, Brighton

House Bill No. 2772, concerning the acquisition of this area by the Metropolitan District Commission, was read to the Commissioners and they unanimously voted to retain this property.

Commissioner Walsh informed the other members of the Commission that he has communicated with Mayor John F. Collins and has stated to the Mayor that this property should remain within the Parks and Recreation Department because, within a short period of time, it will be needed for future development of Evergreen Cemetery.

* * *

5/14/63

## BOSTON COMMON

### Dedication of Carty Parade Ground

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that the boulder has been placed on the parade ground, Boston Common, and just prior to the dedication on June 3 a placque honoring Thomas J. Carty, former Associate Parks and Recreation Commissioner, and Colonel of The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, will be affixed to the stone and formal dedication ceremonies will be held by Mayor John F. Collins.

* * *

### Surface of the Garage--Parade Ground

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne both reported that the recent controversy over the loam on Boston Common has concerned them particularly because of the publicity relating to the removal of the loam. Both officials of the Parks and Recreation Department stated that, in their opinion, the loam was still on the Common, but that when it was placed back on the parade ground, the loam was not separated from clay, dirt, and other materials so that the loam became mixed with the other ground materials resulting in a poor grassed area.

The Commissioner stated that he is on record with the Massachusetts Parking Authority that this area must be restored to its original condition prior to the construction of the garage.

* * *

### Planned Improvements

The Chief Engineer presented to the Commission a list of planned improvements on Boston Common totaling $100,000.00, as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| New boxes for trees and plants to replace the kiosks removed from Lafayette Mall. . . . . | $12,000.00 |
| Information Center on Lafayette Mall. . . . . | $38,000.00 |
| New and modern lighting system -- covering approximately half of the first phase . . . . . | $50,000.00 |
| | $100,000.00 |

The funds, with the approval of the City Council and the Mayor, will come from the Parkman Fund.

* * *

### Franklin Park--Addition to Golf Club House Building

The Board were informed by Chief Engineer Byrne and Commissioner Walsh that the difficulties that have arisen in connection with the construction of the addition to the golf club house on Franklin Park have been settled.

The original appropriation approved by the City Council and the Mayor in the amount of $75,000.00 did not include a complete sewerage system. As a result of a meeting with the Public Works Department Commissioner James W. Haley and the Acting Health Commissioner John T. Foley, M.D. with officials ofthese departments, it was agreed that the sewer charge for joining the addition to the Franklin Park Club House will be assumed by the Public Works Department in a special contract.

* * *

5/14/63

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

The Secretary read to the Commission a communication from Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, to Commissioner Walsh which stated that the Federal Government is to spend in the immediate future $35,000.00 for the repair and rehabilitation of the Monument and the surrounding area.

* * *

Savin Hill Avenue and Auckland Street, Dorchester

The Commissioners were informed that a request has been made to the Boston School Committee for the acquisition of this land which some two years ago had been turned down by the Parks and Recreation Commission. His Honor the Mayor has expressed interest in acquiring the land and the School Committee has been requested to place the matter once again before the Committee for transfer to the Parks and Recreation Department to be used as a mothers' rest and a small children's play area.

* * *

Castle Island, South Boston

The Commissioners were informed by the Secretary that the Metropolitan District Commission has agreed to reserve an area on Castle Island for the conducting of the department's summer retarded children's program.

* * *

C. J. Lee Playground, South Boston

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commission that the latest plans and developments in conjunction with the Gillette Safety Razor Company call for a $30,000.00 addition to the existing field house. This additional center is to be opened during the day and evenings for local programs by children and organizations within the area. When the building is completed, it will be staffed by the ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development). The salaries of the leaders are to be paid by this new agency.

* * *

Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway

Attorney Camille Sarrauf of 54 Devonshire Street, Boston, appeared before the Commission upon invitation from the Commissioner after direction by the City of Boston Law Department. Mr. Sarrauf presented in detail the interest that he has as a parishioner and his clients have in obtaining land at the corner of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway and Centre Street as a site for a church, a parish house, and an auditorium.

The land contains nine acres, and the area required by the church for the buildings of the church would be between three and four acres. It is assumed that the balance would be used for parking or some other facilities.

Mr. Sarrauf reported that they had the approval of Cardinal Cushing to seek new property for the Eastern Rite Church of which they are members. After Mr. Sarrauf left the meeting, the Commissioners discussed the request and they were of the unanimous opinion that no more park land should be sold that was required for park purposes.

5/14/63

It was suggested by Commissioner Snowden that at the proper time a meeting should be held with His Honor the Mayor with all the Commissioners so that there might be a determination made on the sale of future park property.

Upon the suggestion of Commissioner Walsh, the matter has been taken under advisement.

* * *

ABCD (ACTION for BOSTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT)

Mr. Arthur Noren, an official of the ABCD, was in attendance as a result of a request of Commissioner Snowden at a previous meeting so that all members of the Commission would be properly informed of the part ABCD is to have in future park and playground developments in Boston.

Mr. Noren, as a trained and experienced park official, informed the Commission in a very complete and factual manner of the aims of ABCD and how in a particular way they were ready to cooperate with the Parks and Recreation Department. This cooperation would consist of recommendations and in many cases the furnishing of personnel in the development of new playgrounds, recreation centers, play areas, parks, etc.

Mr. Noren presented to the Commission a review of the contemplated plans for the Washington Park Recreation Center. This report set forth in detail the current thinking regarding the construction of the gymnasium and the auditorium at this site including interior and exterior improvements. This report on file in the Parks and Recreation Department office has had the approval of several of the agencies in the Washington Park area.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue

Mr. William A. McDermott reported to the Commission that on Wednesday, May 8, he appeared before the full court of Supreme Court Justices and argued on the change of ordinance on park frontages and the elimination of height restrictions on Commonwealth Avenue. The Supreme Court took the arguments under advisement.

Mr. McDermott did express an opinion to the Board that the Supreme Court might approve either one or the other, but he did not think that both would be approved.

* * *

East Boston Social Center

A communication from William N. Swift of the firm of Hutchins & Wheeler, Counsellors at Law, 294 Washington Street, Boston, was read to the Commission by the Secretary. This concerns the taking over by the Parks and Recreation Department of a gymnasium facility operated by the Good Will House Association affiliated with the East Boston Social Centers, Inc., located at the corner of Lamson and Sumner Streets in the Jeffrey's Point section of East Boston. The operators of the center would lease to the City of Boston for $1.00 a year this gymnasium, after they have demolished an old school building used as their current headquarters.

A new auxiliary building adjacent to the gymnasium would be erected for their service facilities. The Social Center corporation would raise the necessary funds for the construction of this building provided the City of Boston would take over the gymnasium and operate it as a city facility. If this were done, the city would be responsible for ordinary maintenance and repairs as well as heat light, and other utilities, and the property would remain in the ownership of the East Boston Social Centers, Inc.

5/14/63

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commissioners that one of our major recreation and gymnasium facilities is located in the East Boston district on Paris Street. It was voted by the Commission to refer the entire matter and correspondence to Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, for a survey and for a report back at the next meeting of the Commission.

* * *

Conflict of Interest Law

Mr. McDermott discussed with the Commission the new Conflict of Interest Law which stated that, in his opinion, it is one of the poorest pieces of legislation that has been drafted in many years. The law, as presently constituted, is very far reaching, and at this time it cannot be definitely stated as to who will be and who will not be eligible to hold positions as unpaid commissioners or board members with the city government.

* * *

The following alteration has been approved by Commissioner Walsh on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer:

80 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"To add 2 basement apartments, as per plans."

* * *

The following contracts have been awarded since the last meeting with the approval of the Mayor to the low bidder:

"Repairs to Heating System at Greenhouses, Franklin Park Service Yard, West Roxbury, Massachusetts"
J. A. Marino Automatic Heating Company, 18 Union Park Street, Boston . . .$18,188.00

"Proposed Little League Field at Joseph D. McLaughlin Playground, Roxbury, Massachusetts"
Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester . . .$27,227.00

"Painting Parks and Recreation Department Swimming Pools in Boston, Massachusetts"
R. Tweed & Son, 249 Hyde Park Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts . . . $4,347.00

"Extension of Greenhouses at Franklin Park Service Yard, West Roxbury, Massachusetts"
Grant Construction Company, 168 School Street, Somerville, Mass. . . .$33,890.00

"Roofing and Repairs to Service Building, George Wright Golf Course, Hyde Park"
Patrick Ross Company, 180 Binney Street, Cambridge .$10,739.00

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * *

JUNE 12, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:50 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Common Garage

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that the reconditioning of the ball field by the Foundation Company of New York is practically completed, and under the circumstances, a very satisfactory job has been done--as good as can be expected with a gravel and skin diamond surface.

The Commissioners also were informed that Mr. Amos Sanborn, Jr., President of the Foundation Company of New York, at a meeting with Commissioner Walsh, has agreed late in August, to arrange for the plowing and loaming and seeding of the surface over the garage on Boston Common.

* * *

Thomas J. Carty Parade Ground, Boston Common

It is to be officially recorded on the permanent records of the Parks and Recreation Department that the parade ground on Boston Common was dedicated and named for our late Associate Commissioner--Thomas J. Carty--on June 3, 1963.

* * *

Christopher J. Lee Playground, South Boston

The Commissioners were notified by Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne that the work on the Lee Playground is progressing satisfactorily and that the Gillette Safety Razor Company has at present expended in excess of $70,000.00 for improvements on this playground.

Arrangements are being made to obtain an appropriation of $30,000.00 from the "Extraordinary Repair Account" of the city to be expended by the Parks and Recreation Department for the services of an architect and the cost of reconditioning and renewing the field house building on the playground so that it might be suitable for local recreation programs for the citizens of the community on a year-round basis.

Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, informed the Commission that this--together with the program which has been conducted at the Thomas J. O'Day Playground on Pembroke Street in the South End--are pilot type programs which might be considered for several areas of the city, if the proper facilities and trained personnel are obtainable.

* * *

Commonwealth Avenue, Wallingford Road, Brighton

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, informed the Commission the result of the ruling of the Supreme Court on June 3, 1963, concerning the Commonwealth Avenue height limit, as follows:

6/12/63

(1) The 70-foot height limit imposed by the Park Department is now off.

(2) The 70-foot park frontage ordinance, approved and put into law by the City Council, is still ineffect.

This represents approximately a 50% victory and possibly sometime within the next year the City Council might take further action.

* * *

East Boston Social Center (Gymnasium)

Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, presented to the Commissioners a verbal report concerning the taking over of additional gymnasium facilities in the East Boston district, formerly operated by the Good Will House Association. Mr. Ryan briefly stated that if the city were to assume this additional responsibility, the city would have two gymnasium facilities in East Boston while at the same time Brighton, Mattapan, South Dorchester, Neponset, and West Roxbury would be without any gymnasium facility.

The Board were of the unanimous opinion that a complete report covering the entire situation should be prepared by Mr. Ryan. Commissioner Walsh should arrange to present the report to Mayor John F. Collins so that the Mayor might be aware of the entire facts and situations that might develop if we were to take over this additional facility.

* * *

New Play Areas

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that this department is now in the process of constructing twelve small-tot play areas in sections of larger playgrounds throughout the city. Each of these tot-lots will be in a different area of our city so that every section is represented. This is in accordance with instructions from Mayor John F. Collins' allowances within the 1963 department budget.

* * *

Conflict of Interest Law

Mr. McDermott stated to the Commission that there have been no further developments regarding the Conflict of Interest Law.

* * *

House Bill #346 - An Act Relative to the Placing of Poison For the Purpose of Killing Certain Mammals and Birds

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the terms of House Bill #346. This act was signed by the Governor on April 30, 1963, and it will not take effect until ninety days after the signing which will be approximately August 1, 1963.

In the meantime special rules and regulations are being prepared and in accordance with these rules and the cooperation of federal and state officials, Commissioner Walsh will plan to do work under the provisions of the bill sometime late in November or early in December.

* * *

6/12/63

Boston Common - Parkman Fund Appropriation

Secretary informed the Commission that the City Council at its meeting on Monday, June 10, 1963, approved the use of $100,000.00 of the Parkman Fund Income for:

(1) New planting flower boxes on Lafayette Mall to replace the two Metropolitan Transit Authority kiosks which were removed . . . . approximately $12,000.00

(2) Construction of a Colonial-type information booth on Boston Common . . . . approximately $38,000.00

(3) New lighting in a selected area on Boston Common in the amount of . . . . $50,000.00

The entire lighting cost will approximate $100,000.00--the balance will be requested when the 1964 budget is submitted.

* * *

Removal of Trees on Commonwealth Avenue

The Secretary read to the Commission the communication of Commissioner James W. Haley requesting that he be allowed to remove eighty-five (85) trees from Commonwealth Avenue on the southerly side between Kenmore Square and Brighton Avenue, in connection with the proposal to reconstruct Commonwealth Avenue in this area as a Chapter 90 project, to be started in the fall of 1963.

The Secretary also read the reply to Commissioner Haley from Commissioner Walsh stating briefly that as the Tree Warden of the City of Boston he could not, in good conscience, recommend the removal of these fine, healthy trees; and further, in his opinion, the department and Mayor John F. Collins would be severely criticized as it would take over thirty years to replace them.

* * *

Easement Over Metropolitan District Commission Land in the Hyde Park district

Mr. McDermott discussed with the Commission and Arthur J. O'Keefe, Secretary, read a letter from Robert A. Grimes, Attorney, 75 Federal Street, Boston, concerning an easement over Metropolitan District Commission land to Turtle Pond Parkway in the Hyde Park district. This easement would be in the rear of the George Wright Golf Course upon which the First Village, Inc. is to construct five hundred apartments--a taxable development project.

The approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission is required under Section 85 of Chapter 92 of the General Laws. All of the Commissioners signed the official legal paper allowing the easement. This is to be presented to Mr. Grimes by Mr. McDermott and action is to be taken by the Metropolitan District Commission at its meeting on Thursday, June 13, 1963.

* * *

The following changes have been approved by Commissioner Walsh, upon the recommendation of Chief Engineer Byrne, since the last meeting:

45 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

Change the occupancy from eight apartments to ten apartments and an addition story penthouse.

6/12/63

321 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

Change of occupancy from lodging house to dormitory.
No structural work to be done.

349 Commonwealth Avenue - Ward 5

Change from six family dwelling to dormitory.
No structural work to be done.

* * *

The following contracts have been awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

"Asphalt Surfacing of Walks at Jamaica Pond, Olmstead Park, West Roxbury, Mass."

Old Colony Construction Company of Quincy, Vernon Street, Quincy, Massachusetts . . . . . $35,117.0

"Play Area Improvements at Parks and Recreation Department Playgrounds in Boston, Mass."

Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts . . . $62,252.0

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Secretary

* * * * *

JULY 30, 1953

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:45 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake and Daniel G. O'Connor

Absent: Associate Commissioners Frederick A. Meagher and O. Phillip Snowden

A note was received from the office of Commissioner Meagher that he is on vacation and will not return for two or three weeks.

Commissioner Snowden was detained on another assignment at the last moment and could not attend.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Letter from Mrs. Thomas J. Carty

The Secretary read a thank-you letter from Mrs. Carty in appreciation for the great honor paid her husband, Thomas J. Carty, in the naming of the Boston Common Parade Ground.

* * *

Conflict of Interest Law

The Secretary read the order approved by the City Council on July 6, and by the Mayor on July 12, designating the Associate Commissioners of the Parks and Recreation Department as special employees of the City of Boston not coming within the Conflict of Interest Law--Chapter 268 of the General Laws.

* * *

Boston Arts Festival

The Arts Festival for 1953 concluded on Sunday, July 14. Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. will follow up with the Arts Commission to be certain that they restore the Public Garden in accordance with the permit granted.

* * *

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

Chief Engineer Byrne commented and reported on two permits granted, as follows:

1. New England Telephone and Telegraph Company
   For the maintenance of underground conduits, manholes, and cables

2. Boston Edison Company
   Emergency digging and power trouble

Both of these permits are in connection with easements that these companies have for the maintenance of utilities under the playground.

* * *

7/30/63

Muddy River--Charlesgate East andCharlesgate West

A permit was granted to the Metropolitan District Commission for borings in connection with the overpassfrom Storrow Drive over Commonwealth Avenue.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

This matter (before the Board on many an occasion in recent years) is on the agenda again today at the request of Arthur F. Morgan of the Tax and Real Estate Department of the Boston Edison Company. Mr. Morgan and Mr. Bartlett, Attorney for the Edison Company, were present at the meeting.

As a result of discussion, they will endeavor to work out an agreement with the Gulf Oil Company regarding the strip of land (15' x 100') separating the Gulf Oil property and that of the City of Boston. This must be done prior to presenting the sale of this land to the City Council.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Secretary read the latest publicity concerning the possibl acquisition in this site by the Town of Burlington. Similar publicity has appeared in the past. Mr. McDermott of the Law Department is of the opinion that the Town of Burlington has no right to take part of this property for recreation and cemetery purposes, as recently stated in the press.

* * *

Christopher F. Lee Playground, South Boston

This was dedicated on June 26, 1963, by His Honor the Mayor with the president of the Gillette Safety Razor Company and other officials present on a very hot day. Mayor Collins is pleased with the progress which has been made by the Gillette Company and the Parks and Recreation Department. The Gillette Company's contribution is now $70,000.00.

Chief Engineer Byrne commented on the improvement of the field house which is to be done by the city at a cost of $30,000.00. Thi figure is to include the architect's fee and construction contract.

* * *

Good Will House, East Boston, Gymnasium

The Secretary read the report submitted to Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services, under the date of June 28. This is a lengthy report and it is hoped that the Mayor will withhold any acquisition of this property until sometime in the future. It deserves much further consideration in the opinion of the Commissioners. (A full report is on file.)

* * *

Franklin Park Golf Building Addition

Mayor John F. Collins presided at the ground-breaking on July 16, 1963. Chief Engineer Byrne estimates that the building should be completed by October 1, 1963, at a totalcost of approximately $100,000.00--Parks and Recreation Department $75,000.00 and by the Public Works Department $25,000.00.

* * *

7/30/63

Information Booth, Boston Common, Conversion of Kiosk

The Secretary read communications to His Honor the Mayor and to General Manager Thomas J. McLernon of the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

This department is awaiting word from Mr. William Kerr of the Law Department who is in contact with legal officials of the Metropolitan Transit Authority before further action is taken.

* * *

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the contemplated plan to have an Advisory Committee on future improvements on Dorchester Heights consisting of citizens of the community, in accordance with the communication ofHenry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services.

* * *

Jamaica Pond

Commissioner Walsh and the Secretary spoke in detail with the Commissioners regarding the restocking of Jamaica Pond, as a result of the meeting of July 19 with officials of the Division of Fisheries and Game in regard to the cleaning of the basin and stocking with new fish.

The officials of the Division of Fisheries and Gave have determined that all fish must be cleaned from Jamaica Pond before it can be restocked. The plans would cause much confusion at this particular time as it takes over a week to remove all the dead fish. It is a worthwhile program, but the Commissioners voted that, if possible, it be deferred until a later date, possibly in the spring of 1964. A communication to this effect has been sent to the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries.

* * *

Metropolitan District Commission, South Boston

The Secretary read the contemplated improvements by the Metropolitan District Commission at a cost of $500,000.00, as follows:

Castle Island

1. fishing pier
2. picnic areas -- play areas with equipment
3. new sanitary facilities
4. rehabilitation of one-half of old fort leaving old guns and fortification
5. repairing roadways
6. parking areas for 400 cars along roadway to Castle Island
7. extension of Pleasure Bay Beach towards Castle Island

Marine Park

1. new bath house at the head house

* * *

Contracts awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

REPLACING WOODEN SEATING OF BLEACHERS AT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT PLAYGROUNDS IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Martin J. Kelly Company, Inc.
75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain.....$15,360.00

7363

ADDITION TO CLUB HOUSE--FRANKLIN PARK GOLF COURSE--
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Hartstone Construction Corporation
5 Maywood Street, Roxbury 19, Massachusetts..$62,470.00

**

DEVELOPING BURIAL AREAS AT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT CEMETERIES IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

D. F. Frangioso and Company
155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan, Mass.....$28,167.05

**

ASPHALT SURFACING OF ROADWAYS AT EVERGREEN CEMETERY, BRIGHTON, MASS. AND AT FAIRVIEW CEMETERY, HYDE PARK, MASSACHUSETTS

Old Colony Construction Company of Quincy
Vernon Street, Quincy, Mass.....$12,137.90

* * *

The following alterations have been approved by the Commissioner, upon recommendation of the Chief Engineer, since the last meeting:

4-5 ARLINGTON STREET, Ward 5

Installation of new steel support frames, partitions, and windows by the Katherine Gibbs School

**

45 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Subdivide apartment in basement and first floor into three apartments

**

278 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Change dormitory in basement to dining room area with first floor and upper floors to dormitory

**

280 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Change dormitory to kitchen in the basement with dormitories on first floor and upper floor

* *

476 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Change of occupancy--single family dwelling and doctor's office to a retail store, office, and apartments

* * *

The following alteration has been disapproved:

105 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Build connecting balcony to 163 Commonwealth Avenue

* * *

Notices of decision by the BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT, as follows:

(1) Extension of the L-40 (Local business 40' in height) Business Zone between Kittredge and Poplar Street on Washington Street to includeRoslindale Square so as to include triangular shaped property now zoned as R-35 (general residence, 35' in height.)

7/30/63

(2) To extend the L-40 zone at the corner of Grove and Washington Streets in a northerly direction

These appear on the agenda because they are within 100 feet of Parks and Recreation Department property.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Secretary

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AUGUST 27, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:45 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor and Frederick A. Meagher
Absent: Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake because of illness
Associate Commissioner O. Phillip Snowden was in Washington, D. C.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Common Garage Surface Area

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. reported that the Boston Common Garage Authority is in the process of obtaining bids for the reseeding of the Carty Parade Ground--the area immediately over the roof of the Common Garage. The area will be hand-raked, rotor-tilled, and harrowed, and then rolled. This should restore the area to its former condition.

* * *

Charlesgate West

Plans were presented to the Commission for the construction of a five-story seventy-foot high building in the remaining area at Charlesgate West and Boylston Street. This area was rezoned in 1953 for commercial purposes. Since that time the Commission has approved plans for three other buildings at this site. This is the final building in the area that has been set aside for commercial purposes.

* * *

Lowell Street, Holland Playground, Jamaica Plain

The Secretary once again informed the Commission of the contents of Section 2 of Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1959 which allowed the sum of $66,000.00 to be set aside for the development of a playground on the site of the old Lowell School, Centre and Mozart Streets, Jamaica Plain. The Commission questioned the right of taking any part of this money for the demolition of the school and for an opinion on this matter it was voted to write to the Corporation Counsel, Arthur G. Coffey.

* * *

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

Supplementing the previous request of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of December 19 and 27, 1962, the Board voted to grant the further request of this department, according to communications dated August 13 and 21, 1963, wherein the Perini Construction Corporation will be granted permission to install three portable engineers' field offices and one sanitary building in the John J. Ryan Playground, Charlestown. These are necessary in connection with the contract for the construction of the Alford Street Bridge. It was brought out at the meeting that the construction of the bridge will take approximately three years.

* * *

8/27/63

Kiosk Information Booth, Boston Common

Chief Engineer Byrne of the Parks and Recreation Department presented to the Commission plans for the Information Booth on Boston Common to replace the Metropolitan Transit Authority kiosk at the West Street end of the Parkman Plaza Fountain. He informed the Commission of the plans of the Metropolitan Transit Authority to level the building leaving an entrance into the subway which would become part of the new building. This project will be a joint endeavor of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Metropolitan Transit Authority. The Freedom Trail Committee of the City will cooperate in the plans. A further meeting is to be held on Friday, August 30, at the Commission office with the Architect, members of the Freedom Trail Committee, officials of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, Parks and Recreation Department officials and Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services.

* * *

Dover Street Bath and Laundry

The Commissioners were informed that the Dover Street Bath and Laundry, closed since April of 1960 but still maintained and under the custody of the Parks and Recreation Department, was turned over to the Civil Defense Department of Boston on August 19, 1963. The transfer of this agency was made on a temporary basis until further permanent action is taken regarding this property with the understanding that the Department of Civil Defense is to have full maintenance control and custody of the property and is to assume all responsibilities until further notice. General Charles W. Sweeney, Director of Civil Defense, has agreed to these arrangements.

* * *

Jamaica Pond--Restocking with Fish

The Secretary informed the members of the Commission that the restocking of Jamaica Pond with trout and bass has been put over until August of 1964. At that time all fish in the pond with the exception of the trout will be removed. The pond will be stocked with bass and a year after stocking, it should become one of the finest fishing areas in the Commonwealth.

* * *

Dorchester Heights

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne, in company with Mr. Pierce of the National Park Service, visited Dorchester Heights on August 16 and were informed by Mr. Pierce of the plans of the Federal Government concerning the restoration of the site. On August 28 the day after the Commission meeting, a telegram was received from the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, stating that bids for the restoration of Dorchester Heights will be received on September 11 and opened on September 30 in Washington. In the meantime a representative of the National Park Service will call on Mayor Collins concerning restoration plans.

* * *

Boston Redevelopment Authority, Washington Park

The Commissioners were informed by the Chief Engineer that the agreement has been made with Mr. Joseph L. Paley, Consulting Engineer for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, in connection with the new housing development at the Notre Dame site, Washington Park Project for the planting of trees on streets within the project. It is estimated that this will cost $6,152.00 and we plan to request this amount in the 1964 budget.

* * *

8/27/63

Swan School Site, Thetford Avenue, Dorchester

The Secretary read to the Commission Chapter 507 of the Acts of 1963 approved by the Legislature on June 28, 1963, whereby the City of Boston is authorized and directed to construct and maintain a tot-lot playground on the above-mentioned site. A discussion followed on this matter and it was the opinion of the Commissioners that this legislative action does not force the Commission to arrange for the construction of a playground at this site.

The Secretary called to the Commission's attention the communication of April 15 addressed to Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services, in which it was pointed out that this particular piece of property is in close proximity to the Thomas J. Roberts Playground--an area of over ten acres--which is more than ample for the requirements of this particular district and that, therefore, the construction of a smaller play area is not required.

* * *

Maverick Square Mall, East Boston

On a motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Meagher, it was unanimously voted to name the Mall within the Maverick Square area--that section of the square coming under the Parks and Recreation Department--in memory of John A. Scaramella, a veteran of the United States Armed Services, past Commander of the Lt. Lawrence J. Flaherty Post #3, American Legion, and past Commander of the Italian War Veterans. The Commissioners were happy to grant this request because of the active military and civic service of Mr. Scaramella and also upon the recommendation of the Commander of the several veterans' organizations of East Boston, known as the Veterans' Council, and further the endorsement of the public officials of this district.

* * *

Walter Street, West Roxbury--Arnold Arboretum

For a period of three years the department has been endeavoring to acquire this property, formerly the old West Roxbury yard of the Public Works Department, as an addition to the Arnold Arboretum. The order submitted to the Council early in 1960 has evidently been lost and upon the recommendation of William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, a new request was submitted to the Mayor under date of August 16, 1963, requesting that an Order once again be forwarded to the City Council regarding this transfer.

* * *

Swiss Clock, Copley Square

The Secretary read to the Commission a letter from His Honor the Mayor, dated August 16, and addressed to E. Wallace Lawrence, Assistant to the President of International Marketing, the Watchmakers of Switzerland, thanking this organization for presenting the flower clock to the City of Boston and informing Mr. Lawrence that temporarily the clock would be placed in Copley Square, Sunday, September 22, has been set for placing the clock and at a later date when the new City Hall is completed, it would be relocated in the new City Hall area in the Government Center. The Commissioner and Chief Engineer briefly pointed out to the Commissioners the plans for the installation of the clock.

* * *

Copley Square Improvements

The Commission were informed by the Commissioner and Chief Engineer and Secretary of contemplated plans for the improvement of Copley Square as presented to them by Frederick Garrison of Spencer M. Hurtt Associates at a meeting in the Commission office on August 22.

6/27/63

This discussion was only preliminary. Mr. Garrison said he had been retained by the Back Bay Association for the business people of the area to present a new plan for Copley Square. When plans have been perfected, they will be presented to the Commission.'

* * *

Kenmore Square

The Chief Engineer presented to the Commission plans for the construction of a new apartment house at 566 Commonwealth Avenue adjacent to the First National Bank property--now a parking space. Permission has been granted by Commissioner Walsh to the Edwin T. Steffian and Associates to remove three elm trees from in front of the property and replace them with seven sycamore plane trees--all work to be done at the expense of the Steffian Associates.

* * *

Improvements Made This Year

The Chief Engineer briefly brought the Commission up-to-date on many of the new improvements made throughout the park system during 1963. It is his opinion that we have engaged in more construction and improvement projects than for many years.

* * *

CONTRACTS awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

"REPLACEMENT AND CONVERSION OF HEATING BOILERS AT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS"
P.J. Janis Plumbing and Heating Company
10 Brookley Road, Jamaica Plain, Mass.....$15,200.00

"CONSTRUCTING PLANTING BOXES AND BLOCK PAVEMENT AT LAFAYETTE MALL, BOSTON COMMON"
Ronal & Company
191 West Wyoming Avenue, Melrose, Mass.....$12,945.00

"COMPLETING THE TENNIS BALL BANG BOARD COURT AT WILLIAM E. CARTER PLAYGROUND, ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS"
Robert C. Lazaro, 7 Centre Street, Waltham, Mass.....$1,695.00

The following ALTERATIONS have been approved by the Commissione upon recommendation of the Chief Engineer, since the last meeting:

232 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, WARD 5

Chamberlayne School and Junior College to alter and change of occupancy from one family dwelling to dormitory. No structural changes-new fire escape; new second means of egress; fire extinguishers, etc

463 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, WARD 5

Remove rear stairs, enlarging area in rear apartments, on first, second, third andfourth floors.

The following ALTERATION has been disapproved:

476 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, WARD 5

"Eliminate connecting balconies and install fire escapes, 4th floor to ground on front and rear."

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Secretary

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OCTOBER 9, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:35 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor, and O. Phillip Snowden

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Boston Common Garage Surface Area

Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that since the last meeting, he has met with Mr. Battles of Thompson Litchner, Engineers for the Garage Authority. They agreed that the entire area of the Boston Common Garage should be rotor-tilled and re-seeded, but the work depends on the availability of appropriations.

Commissioner Walsh stated that he talked with Chairman Valente and General Manager Carp of the Authority who reported that they had advertised for the work and the low bidder submitted a bid of $20,000.00. They had expected a bid of no more than $10,000.00.

Commissioner Walsh further stated to the Commission that the Authority has no funds with which to do this work at this time. Accordingly, no definite report can be made at this time to the Commission.

* * *

Charlesgate West

The Commissioners were acquainted with the amended plans for the erection of an office building at #2 Charlesgate West, Ward 5. At a previous meeting, the Commission had granted approval for the erection of a five-story building at this site. The Chief Engineer informed the Commission that the new approved plans will allow the building to go to a height of six stories. There is no other change in the plans approved by the Commission, and they are still within the allowable height, accor ding to Park Law.

* * *

Nashua Street Landtaking

Mr. William A. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, stated that the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would require spe cial legislation to obtain the remaining land, known as Lomasney Park on Nashua Street, adjacent to the Public Works Building.

The Secretary was requested to write to Mr. George E. Lybrand, Assistant Chief Engineer at the Public Works Department, informing him of this fact and also stating in the letter that the Commission would give further consideration if proper legislation were presented to them.

* * *

Tyler Street Play Area, South End

The Secretary reported to the Commission that Mr. Richard Casey, an appraiser, has been retained by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority for the appraising of the Tyler Street Play Area, South End. This area is being taken by the Authority for the extension of the turnpike.

10/9/63

On a unanimous vote of the Commission, it was recommended that a letter be sent to Arthur G. Coffey, Corporation Counsel, by Commissioner Walsh requesting that the city arrange for an appraisal of the property by a Law Department appraiser.

* * *

Kiley, Tobin, and Cherry Street Play Areas, South End

The Chief Engineer and the Secretary called to the attention of the Commission the progress being made of plans of the Boston Redevelopment Authority concerning the demolition of property in the South End area bounded by Broadway, Dover, Washington, and Tremont Streets.

Within this area the Parks and Recreation Department will lose three play areas--Cherry Street off Shawmut Avenue, and Kiley and Tobin Play Areas located on Albion, Compton, and Village Streets.

The Commissioners were informed that a communication had been sent to Edward J. Logue, Development Administrator of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, under date of September 26, asking that he arrange to talk with the Parks and Recreation Commissioner regarding the removal of these areas and the arrangements for reimbursement to the City of these areas.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. McDermott, it was decided to await a reply from Mr. Logue before taking any further action.

* * *

Washington Park, Boston Redevelopment Authority

The Commissioners were acquainted with a notice of the Board of Zoning Adjustment, dated September 26, whereby certain streets within the Washington Park Boston Redevelopment Authority development are being changed from R-40, General Residence 40' in height, to Local Business R-65, 40' and 65' in height. The area involved is on the north between the center line of Dale Street, on the east between the center line of Warren Street, and on the south between the center line of Bower Street.

Commissioner Snowden then acquainted the Commission with the progress being made in this development and the large part that will be played by the Parks and Recreation Department in the future plans.

* * *

Charlestown, Boston Redevelopment Authority

Mr. Byrne, Chief Engineer, presented to the Board the latest Boston Redevelopment Authority plans concerning the development in the Charlestown district, particularly as they pertain to new tot lot play areas, community center, marina, etc.

The matter was discussed and the plans presented to the Commission, and then on motionof Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Meagher, it was unanimously voted to send a communication to Mr. Edward J. Logue, Development Administrator, setting forth each particular location and the acceptance by the Parks and Recreation Commission under certain conditions which were set forth in the communication. (See letter dated October 10, 1963.)

* * *

Jamaica Pond Area, House Bill No. 7031

The Secretary was requested to write to Paul J. Burns, legislative agent for the City of Boston, to ask that he arrange to meet with Commissioner Walsh concerning the above House Bill which is of much concern to this Commission, particularly as it pertains to the Jamaicaway area.

* * *

10/9/63

Boston Common Improvements

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne acquainted the Commission with the progress being made on the installation of new flower boxes, Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, to replace two kiosks removed; the latest information concerning the erection of an information booth at the site of the fountain on Parkman Plaza--a cooperative effort between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Metropolitan Transit Authority--and the progress being made for improved lighting on Boston Common--the first phase will be completed prior to the opening of the Christmas Festival.

In connection with the information booth, the architectural and contractual services will be apportioned 64% to the Parks and Recreation Department and 36% to the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

* * *

Lowell School, Holland Playground, Jamaica Plain

The Commissioners were informed that bids have been received for the demolition of the Lowell School on the site of the Holland Playground, Centre and Mozart Streets, Jamaica Plain. The low bidder was Joseph A. Jacobs of Route 1, West Peabody, in the amount of $11,331.00.

When the school is demolished, it is planned to construct on the site a modern play facility for which this department has the sum of $55,000.00 available.

* * *

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Secretary stated that once again the question has been raised as to the Parks and Recreation Department rights regarding the Cummings Estate property in Woburn.

Mr. McDermott was asked the question as to whether this property could be taken by eminent domain by the City of Woburn or the Town of Burlington. Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that neither of these communities would have this right; that the will of Mary P. C. Cummings must be followed and he is certain that the courts will so decide.

* * *

Swiss Clock, Copley Square

Commissioner Walsh acquainted the Commission with the facts concerning the clock now in Copley Square, dedicated on Sunday, September 22, by Mayor John F. Collins, and donated by the Swiss Watchmakers. When the Government Center is completed, current plans are for the relocation of the clock in the park plaza in front of the City Hall.

* * *

Halloween

Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, reported to the Commission on the complete plans for the city-wide Halloween' program and he pointed out that in the ten years that the program has been in operation, the vandalism has been reduced to almost a minimum. In fact, there is less damage now on Halloween than in an ordinary night because of the dedicated cooperation of officials of the public and parochial schools, social agencies, and par ticularly the churches of all faiths in the city.

* * *

10/9/62

Naming of East Boston Stadium as "East Boston Memorial Stadium"

On a motion of Commissioner Meagher, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to name the East Boston Stadium as the "East Boston Memorial Stadium." Commissioner Walsh is to arrange for a suitable plaque to be placed on the stadium in the near future.

* * *

Dorchester Heights

Mr. Byrne reported to the Commission that the Federal Government has started repairs at Dorchester Heights which will include new stairs, cleaning of the monument, general rehabilitation of the entire area.

The Federal Government will spend several thousand dollars in the improvements. This area--although a National Shrine--is a Shrine in name only as the maintenance will still be the responsibility of the City of Boston (Parks and Recreation Department).

* * *

CONTRACTS awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

"FURNISHING AND PLANTING TREES ON STREETS AND PARKWAYS IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS"
Blueview Nurseries, Inc., 44 Codman Hill Avenue, Dorchester.$14,450

"RAZING THE LOWELL SCHOOL AT CENTRE AND MOZART STREETS, ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS"
Joseph A. Jacobs, Route 1, West Peabody.....$11,331.

EXTENSIONS

"PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS AT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT PLAYGROUNDS IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS"
Albert C. Graglia Company, Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester, to November 1, 1963

"ADDITION TO CLUB HOUSE, FRANKLIN PARK GOLF COURSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS"
Hartstone Construction Corporation, 5 Maywood Street, Roxbury 19, to November 1, 1963

* * *

The following ALTERATIONS have been approved by Commissioner Walsh upon the recommendation of the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrn, Jr., since the last meeting:

476 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Eliminate connecting balconies by substituting interior stairway as per plans filed

198 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Change of occupancy from lodging house to Dormitory. No structural changes proposed; no work to be done.

364-366 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, Ward 5

Alterations were approved for interior and exterior repairs.

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Arthur D. Keefe
Secretary

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NOVEMBER 7, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake, Frederick A. Meagher and Daniel G. O'Connor
Associate Commissioner O. Phillip Snowden was absent because of a death in the family.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Nashua Street Landtaking

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with the letter of Mr. Jack P. Ricciardi, Commissioner of the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth, asking that this land be temporarily transferred to the Commonwealth until such time as an act is approved by the legislature making the transfer official.

Mr. Ricciardi submitted with his communication a proposed form of agreement that might be executed between the Parks and Recreation Department and the State Public Works Department. Mr. McDermott recommended that no action be taken until legislation had been approved. The Commissioners were in accord with this recommendation.

* * *

Kiley, Tobin, and Cherry Street Play Areas, South End

On motion by Commissioner Meagher, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted that the Parks and Recreation Department accept the offer of the Boston Redevelopment Authority of $56,000.00 in full settlement for the fee simple title to parcels known as the Kiley--Tobin Playgrounds and $45,000.00 in full settlement for the fee simple title to the parcel of land known as the Cherry Street Playground.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority will be notified of the action taken.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Avenue--Wallingford Road, Brighton

The Secretary informed the Commission that Mr. Arthur Morgan, who is in charge of real estate for the Boston Edison Company, stated that he will offer the Gulf Oil Refining Company the sum of $1,500.00 allowing the Edison Company to enter through their land to the site of the new Edison power station.

Mr. McDermott informed the Commission that there could be no further action by the city with the Edison Company until proper agreement had been made between the Boston Edison Company and Gulf Oil Company.

* * *

Ryan Playground, Charlestown

Mr. William Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant of the Law Department, read to the Commission a communication addressed to Honorable John F. Collins, Mayor of Boston, from George A. Orrok, Vice-President in charge of Engineering of the Boston Edison Company, offering $10,000.00 for the right of an easement through the Ryan Playground required for electric service to the City of Boston.

11/7/63

On motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to submit to His Honor the Mayor a recommendation that he submit to the City Council an order to the effect that it is the opinion of the Commission that the two parcels of land described in Plan #K-336, entitled City of Boston, Alford Street, Charlestown, June 30, 1950, James W. Haley, Chief Engineer, Street Laying-out Department, as amended October 18, 1963, to extend the right and easement therein to construct, reconstruct, add to, repair, renew, maintain, and operate in the sub-surface soil duct lines, pipe lines, main lines, and underground materials, appliances and apparatus, an easement to enter upon said parcels of land for the purpose of engineering the aforesaid right and easement, are no longer required for public purposes.

It was further voted that the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to notify the City Council on behalf of the Commission that in the opinion of the Commission, the said two parcels of land to the extent of the rights and easements above described, are no longer required for public purposes and that the Commission recommends the granting of said rights and easements in said two parcels of land to the Boston Edison Company for $10,000.00.

* * *

Garvey Playground, Neponset

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with Chapter 704 of the Acts of 1963 which would authorize the City of Boston to convey without consideration a certain portion of Garvey Playground to the Metropolitan District Commission for the construction of an ice-skating rink. The legislation fails to mention whether the Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Council, or the Mayor would be the conveying authority.

As this bill is only oneof information as of the present, Mr. McDermott stated it was not properly before the Commission for any action at this time.

* * *

Lands to be Returned to the School Department

I. Paul Gore Street, Jamaica Plain - .47 acres, acquired in 1913

II. Washington and Stimson Streets, West Roxbury - .30 acres, acquired in 1938

On motion of Commissioner Blake, seconded by Commissioner Meagher, it was unanimously voted to arrange for the transfer back to the Boston School Committee of two parcels of land previously transferred by the School Department to the Parks and Recreation Department for playground purposes.

These lands have never been developed by the Parks and Recreation Department and the Commissioner and the Chief Engineer reported that the department has absolutely no use for them. Mr. McDermott of the Law Department will prepare a proper order on the City Council requesting the transfer of the p roperties.

* * *

Shade Tree Laws, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

On motion by Commissioner Walsh, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following vote:

"Amend Section 7 of Chapter 19 of the Revised Ordinance of 1961 to provide that the Commissioner, rather than the Board, shall have the powers and duties set forth in Section 7."

* * *

11/7/63

Pigeon Control, Boston Common, etc.

Secretary read to the Commission report of the meeting of October 25, 1963, held at the Commission office at which were present officials from the Parks and Recreation Department, Law Department, Health Department, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

A report of the above-mentioned meeting is in the file.

A rather lengthy discussion followed between the Commission and Mr. Kerr. Mr. Kerr recommended that a meeting be arranged with Mr. Sargent, the Commissioner of Wildlife for the Commonwealth, and his legal counsel, with Commissioner Walsh and Mr. Kerr to discuss in detail the terms of Chapter 346 of the Acts of 1963.

Before following further on this matter, it was the unanimous opinion of the Commission that this is a matter that could be quite controversial and they expressed the view that we must be certain all proper steps have been complied with before final action is taken.

* * *

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that the first stage of the rehabilitation of Dorchester Heights is about ready to start. This will consist of pointing and rehabilitation of the monument and the area around the monument at a cost of approximately $19,000.00 to be paid for by the National Park Service.

* * *

Boston Common -- New Lighting

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne informed the Commission that within the immediate future thirty of the new modern electric lights will be erected on Boston Common.

* * *

Copley Square Improvements

Mr. Robert B. Cutler, Architect, 45 Newbury Street, Boston, a member of the Back Bay Association retained by that Association, presented to the Commission the proposed design of Copley Square and Huntington Avenue interchange.

Mr. Cutler explained at this time that the plans are only in a formative stage and that in the near future he is to have a series of meetings with Mr. Edward J. Logue, Development Administrator of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, and at a later date with Mayor Collins.

No action is to be taken by the Parks and Recreation Commission at this time. This Commission will be the final approving authority when final plans for improvements are being completed in this historic site.

* * *

Boston Common -- Information Booth

Chief Engineer Byrne indicated to the Commission that the architectural plans have been completed, and working with the architect, advertisements will be prepared in the very near future for the construction of the information booth.

* * *

11/7/63

Arlington and Beacon Street, Boston--Metropolitan District Commission property

The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously voted to concur in a conveyance of approximately sixty-eight square feet of land as indicated on a plan dated October 7, 1951, submitted by the Metropolitan District Commission, as required by Section 85 of Chapter 92 of the General Laws.

This deeds to the City of Boston a small section of land which will round off the corner of Arlington and Beacon Streets and make it much safer for pedestrian and auto traffic.

* * *

CONTRACTS awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

Architect's Contract -- letter of approval signed by the Mayor on October 23, 1963

"CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW KIOSK ON BOSTON COMMON"

Drummey, Rosane and Anderson, 80 Boylston Street, Boston...$4,700.00 (estimated)

* *

November 5, 1963

"ALTERATIONS TO FIELD HOUSE AT MAJOR CHRISTOPHER F. LEE PLAYGROUND, SOUTH BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS"

A. W. Mednick, Inc., 1191 North Main Street, Randolph....$25,720.00

* *

Extension

"ADDITION TO CLUB HOUSE, FRANKLIN PARK GOLF COURSE, BOSTON, MASS."

to December 1, 1963

Hartstone Construction Corporation, 5 Maywood Street, Roxbury, Mass.

* *

ALTERATIONS approved by Commissioner Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., since the last meeting:

364-366 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, WARD 5

"Replace floor timbers on first floor; relocate one door; build 11-0 partition with new door; cut opening in exterior masonry wall, install Class B door--frame and lintels. Work to be done in stores at 84, 86, and 88 Massachusetts Avenue."

180 RIVERWAY DRIVE, WARD 4

"Carl Koch and Associates, Inc., are to build a Type I building consisting of Auditorium and Classroom Buildings."

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary

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DECEMBER 10, 1963

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Martin F. Walsh
Associate Commissioners Frederick A. Meagher, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden
Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake was absent because of illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Garvey Playground, Neponset

Chapter 704 of the Acts of 1963, presented to the Commission at its meeting of November 7, was again presented at today's meeting. This particular act authorizes the City of Boston to convey without consideration a portion of the Garvey Playground in the Neponset district to the Metropolitan District Commission for the construction of an ice skating rink. The area involved is 3.36 acres (147,600 square feet) as indicated on a plan of the Metropolitan District Commission dated August 21, 1963, signed Benjamin W. Fink, Director of Park Engineering.

Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed the details of the transfer with the Commission. On motion by Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following vote:

"A certain parcel of land, being a portion of the William H. Garvey Playground located in the Dorchester District of said City and more fully described in Chapter 704 of the Acts of 1963, is hereby determined to be no longer required by the City of Boston for public purposes."

The Secretary was instructed to prepare a letter to His Honor the Mayor for submission to the City Council requesting the transfer.

The Commission further voted to authorize Commissioner Walsh to address a communication to Robert F. Murphy, Commissioner of the Metropolitan District Commission, offering to the Metropolitan District Commission the temporary custody and control of the field house on the Garvey Playground.

* * *

Willow Pond Road, Jamaica Plain

The Secretary read to the Commission Chapter 799, Acts of the Legislature, which would authorize the Commission to transfer to the Metropolitan District Commission Emmons Playground--Rutherford Avenue, Union Street, Washington Street, and Austin Street,--in the Charlestown district, the playground off the Jamaicaway, located northeasterly from Willow Pond Road, and the William Eustis Playground located on Norfolk Avenue in Roxbury.

These lands, if conveyed under the terms of Chapter 799, may only be conveyed with the assent of the Parks and Recreation Commission. No action was taken at this meeting and the matter was laid on the table.

* * *

12/10/63

Boston Common Kiosk Information Booth

Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. reported that we are awaiting the approval of the Architect engaged to prepare plans from the Metropolitan Transit Authority Trustees.

Since the last meeting of the Commission, a compliance agreement whereby the City of Boston will pay 64% of the cost of construction and the Metropolitan Transit Authority 36%, has been approved by the officials of both departments.

Chief Engineer Byrne further reported that upon the approval of the architect's contract, advertisements will be prepared for the construction of the kiosk with the hope that construction will start in March of 1964.

* * *

Good Will House, East Boston

Mr. McDermott of the Law Department reported that an agreement between the East Boston Social Centers and the Parks and Recreation Department was approved by the Mayor on November 20. Under the terms of the agreement, the City of Boston will maintain the gymnasium facility upon the completion by the East Boston Social Centers of the auxiliary building now planned for construction.

No further action is required at this meeting.

* * *

Chestnut Hill Roadway at Evergreen Cemetery

Commissioner Walsh and Chief Engineer Byrne again briefly acquainted the Commission with the future plans for this roadway. Commissioner Walsh has requested an appointment with His Honor the Mayor to discuss the future of this road and until such time as he talks with the Mayor, H cannot present any further information to the Commission.

* * *

O'Day Playground, South End

The Secretary read to the Commission the contents of the recommendation made by the Director of Recreation and the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation regarding the operation of the playground. This was presented to Henry A. Scagnoli, Director of Administrative Services.

The report of the Mayor's Recreation Advisory Committee concerning "An Appraisal of the Effectiveness of the Thomas O'Day Playground" and the comments submitted to Mr. Scagnoli are in the department files.

* * *

Public Works Department--Maintenance of Grassed Areas

Commissioner Walsh informed the Commissioners of a meeting with James W. Haley, Commissioner of Public Works, concerning the taking over of the grassed areas, squares, etc. throughout the city, now under the control of the Public Works Department.

There are a number of these areas, and if and when they are to be taken over, the Law Department must arrange for a transfer by spe cial order on the City Council. The matter is under consideration.

* * *

12/10/63

Dorchester Heights, South Boston

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that work is progressing according to plans. The monument is being pointed at the present time and repairs are being made to the main structure.

* * *

Boston Redevelopment Authority--Washington Park

Commissioner Snowden informed the other Commissioners that there have been no new developments since the last meeting which require the Commission's attention regarding the Washington Park Development Program.

* * *

Boston Redevelopment Authority

The Secretary acquainted the Commission with a communication dated November 13, 1963, addressed to Albert F. Donnelly, Assistant Commissioner of Real Property, by J. R. Rothermel, Executive Officer of the Planning Department of the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

This communication listed some thirty-four buildings under the care and control of the Real Property Department and the plans for their development, rehabilitation, etc.

The Parks and Recreation Department are tenants in two of the buildings: Curtis Hall, Jamaica Plain, and the South Boston Municipal Building. The recommendations of the Boston Redevelopment Authority are that these buildings should be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department for major expenditure by the Department for improvements as a community center. The South Boston building is being marked for transfer in 1965; the Curtis Hall building in 1966.

No current action is required. The communication and recommendation were placed on file.

* * *

CONTRACT awarded to the low bidder since the last meeting:

Invitation Bid

"Furnishing and Installing New Heating Boiler at Greenhouses, Franklin Park Service Yard, West Roxbury, Massachusetts"

Haffer-Mandell Company, 410 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury.....$16,900.00

Extension of Contract

"Developing Burial Areas at Parks and Recreation Department Cemeteries in Boston, Massachusetts"

D. F. Frangioso & Company, 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan.....
to December 10, 1963

* * *

12/16/63

ALTERATIONS

Approved by Commissioner Walsh upon the recommendation of Chief Engineer Byrne:

332 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5

"Divide the second and third floors in two apartments each, as per attached plans."

380 Fenway, Ward 4 Emmanuel College

"Erect Type I Library - as per plan."

* * *

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Arthur D. Hess

Secretary

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